

THIS PLACE MAKES ME  
THINK OF THE DEVIL.



HE FLEW TOO HIGH AND BURNT  
HIS WINGS, THEN FALLING HE  
LOST HIS FAITH IN EVERYTHING



JUST LIKE  
ME

THE GREAT TRENCH  
WAY.



THE GREAT BODY HARVEST IS MORE  
LIKE IT...

ONE SIDE THROWS BODIES AGAINST A WALL OF BULLETS, THEN BACK AND  
FORTH.



THIS WAR MACHINE IS OBSOLETE

THE TRENCH OFFERS NO  
SAFETY.... A DEMON LIVES  
IN THE TRENCH WITH US.



HE TAUGHT ME  
HOW TO SURVIVE...



TEAR A HOLE EXQUISITE RED.  
FUCK THE REST AND STAB  
IT DEAD!

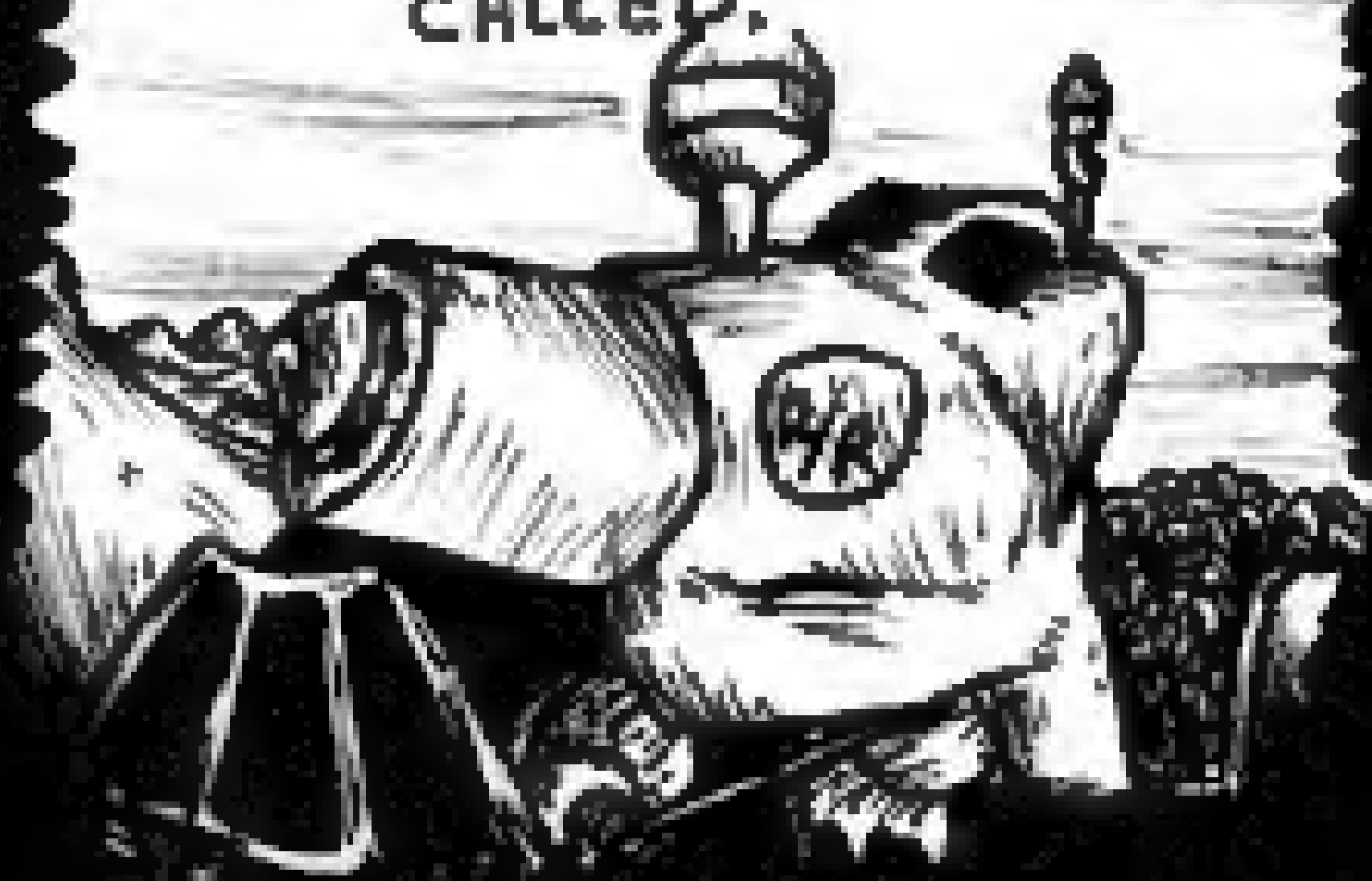


I'M BROKEN, BRAISED, FORGOTTEN, SORE,



AND TOO FUCKED UP  
TO CARE  
ANYMORE

BUT NOW I'M HEADED HOME.  
"BEREAVEMENT LEAVE", ITS  
CALLED.



MY WIFE WAS PREGNANT  
WHEN I LEFT THREE  
YEARS AGO.



I'M GUESSING THAT  
THE SON I HAVE NEVER  
KNOWN IS NOW DEAD.



"BEREAVEMENT LEAVE" MEANS SOMEONE  
DIED....



AT LEAST THERE'S HER. AT LEAST I  
CAN SEE HER AGAIN....



THE MAID ANSWERED  
THE DOOR.



HELLO, WHERE IS  
MOLLY?



SIR..... SHE'S DEAD....



BEREAVEMENT LEAVE.....MY  
MOLLY....



SHE'D HUNG HERSELF OVER A MONTH AGO....



SHE LEFT ME  
A NOTE.

THE NOTE WAS OPENED AND IT  
READ "TRIED TO SAY, TRIED TO ASK.  
I NEEDED TO, ALL ALONE BY  
MYSELF. WHERE WERE YOU?"



"YOU'LL NOTICE IN THE BACKYARD, A TINY  
HEADSTONE. OUR SON IS DEAD. HE DIED AT  
BIRTH. I KNEW YOU WANTED A SON MORE  
THAN ANYTHING"



"I STAYED FAITHFUL  
EVEN THOUGH I SLEPT WITH  
TWO OTHERS WHILE YOU  
WERE AWAY"



"IT WASN'T LOVE OR  
LUST. I WANTED YOU  
TO COME HOME TO A  
SON BUT THEY ALL DIED"



"WHERE WERE YOU?"



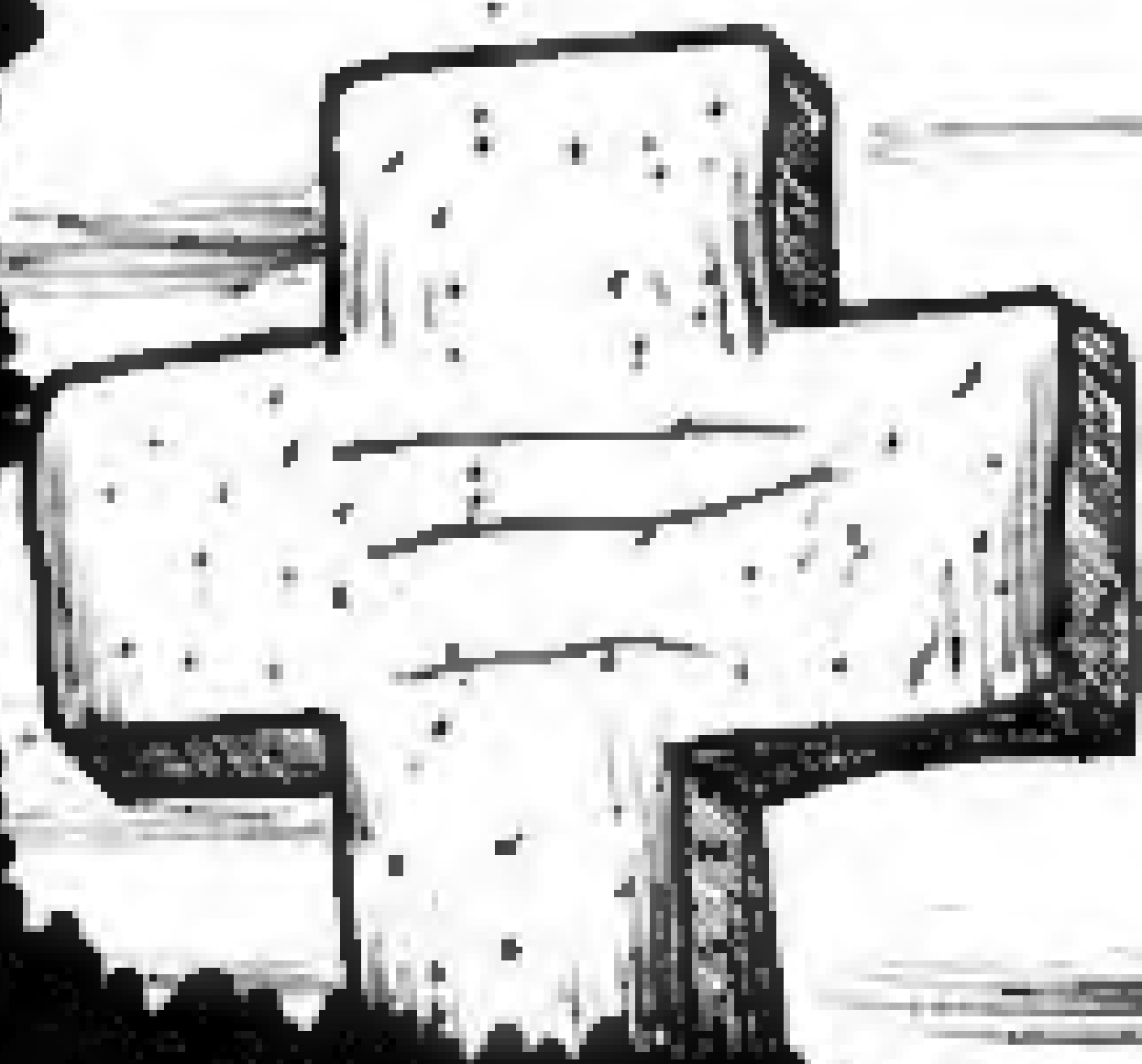
"I THINK ITS FUNNY HOW  
EVERYTHING YOU SWORE WOULD  
NEVER CHANGE IS DIFFERENT  
NOW.... A FAMILY.... A LONG  
LIFE TOGETHER"



"WHERE THE FUCK WERE  
YOU!?"



IT'S BEEN A WEEK SINCE I READ THE THINGS SHE SAID, AND ALL OF MY INSIDES  
FEEL COLD AND GRAY.



I'D PAY ANYTHING TO BE WITH  
YOU, MOLLY.



TO HAVE TO DEAL WITH THIS ALL WHILE KNOWING  
TOMORROW, I WILL BE SENT BACK TO THE TRENCH  
...I'D PAY ANYTHING....



.... AND ITS THE SWEETEST  
PRICE I'LL HAVE TO PAY...



...TODAY.... THE WHOLE  
WORLD GOES AWAY.



I SUPPOSE YOU DIDN'T TOSS  
YOUR LIFE AWAY CASUALLY,  
BUT STILL...

SUCH A THING AS LIFE  
IS FAR TOO....

FRAIL.

SO, TODD, LET'S MAKE THIS EASY,  
HMM? WE'LL SKIP JUDGEMENT AND I'LL  
TAKE YOU TO HELL NOW.

HELL?!

THERE'S THE SUICIDE  
FOR STARTERS... THEN THAT  
OTHER THING.

OTHER? I.... I  
WAS JUST FOLLOWING  
ORDERS...



LOOK, I  
JUST WANT TO SEE  
MY MOLLY AGAIN.  
THAT'S THE ONLY REASON  
I CAME.



DON'T WORRY, YOU'LL SEE  
HER. SHE'S IN HELL AS WE  
SPEAK.



YOU'LL BE SURPRISED  
WHEN YOU DISCOVER  
WHAT SHE'S DONE.



NO, THAT CAN'T BE! MY  
MOLLY DOESN'T BELONG IN HELL!



TELL ME HOW  
YOU KNOW?



BECAUSE THERE'S A THING CALLED  
DESTINY AND FATE. OUR LIVES WERE  
WRITTEN FOR US. ITS NOT OUR FAULT.



THAT'S A USEFUL  
EXCUSE. YOU'VE DONE  
NOTHING WRONG. IT WAS  
DESTINY. IT WAS FATE...



DON'T MOCK ME!!



TAKE IT UP WITH  
THE MANAGEMENT, MY FRIEND.



FINE!! I'LL TAKE IT  
TO THE GOD DAMNED,  
DEVIL HIMSELF!



YOU'RE GOING TO TALK  
TO THE DEVIL ABOUT FATE  
AND DESTINY....?

YES.

HMPF....

HA HA HA  
HA HA HA!

WELL SHIT, LET ME  
GET YOU ON YOUR  
WAY, THEN!

HUH??





AHHHHH!!




AHHH!!

No!!



REWORKS!!





THEY'RE JUST A  
REFLECTION!

JUST A LITTLE REMINDER  
OF ALL THE WHAT-  
ABOUTS, OF ALL THE  
MIGHT-HAVE, COULD HAVE BEENS

AND NOW YOU'RE  
ONE OF US.....

THE  
WRETCHED!

YOUR HOPES AND PRAYS OF  
BETTER DAYS AND FAR AWAYS?

FORGET  
IT!

IT DIDN'T TURN OUT THE WAY  
YOU WANTED IT, DID IT?


NOW! YOU KNOW THIS IS WHAT  
IT FEELS LIKE

I WAS ONE OF  
THEM

I JOINED IN THEIR DANCE, PARTICIPATED  
IN THEIR ORGY....

YEARS UNDER KANE'S  
SHADOW. WHAT ELSE COULD  
I DO?

YOU'RE WASTING  
TIME!



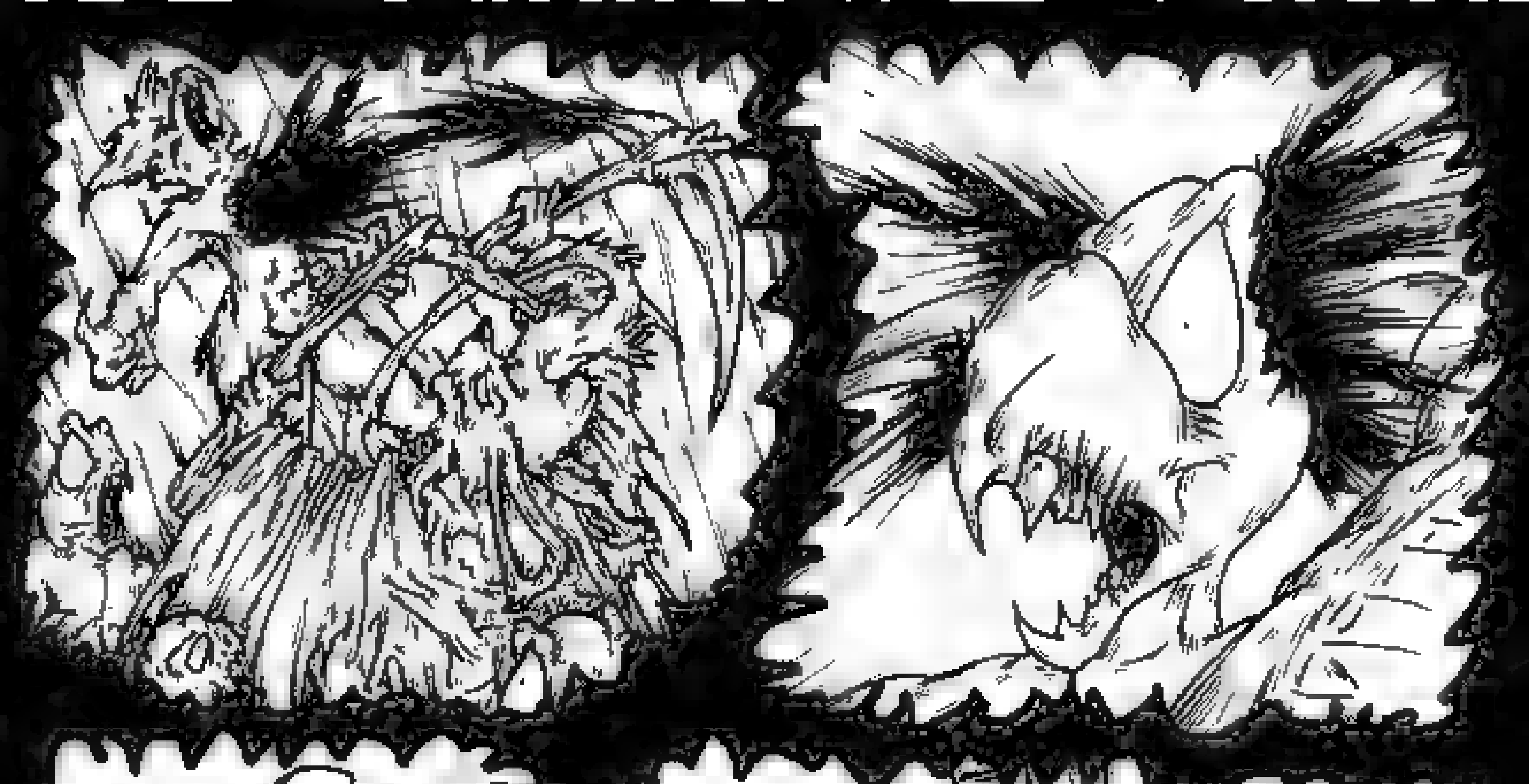
I HAVE FOUND YOUR  
MOLLY, YOU MUST RUN!  
NOW!

WHAT!?

**RUN!!**

I RAN.

JACK COVERED MY ESCAPE...



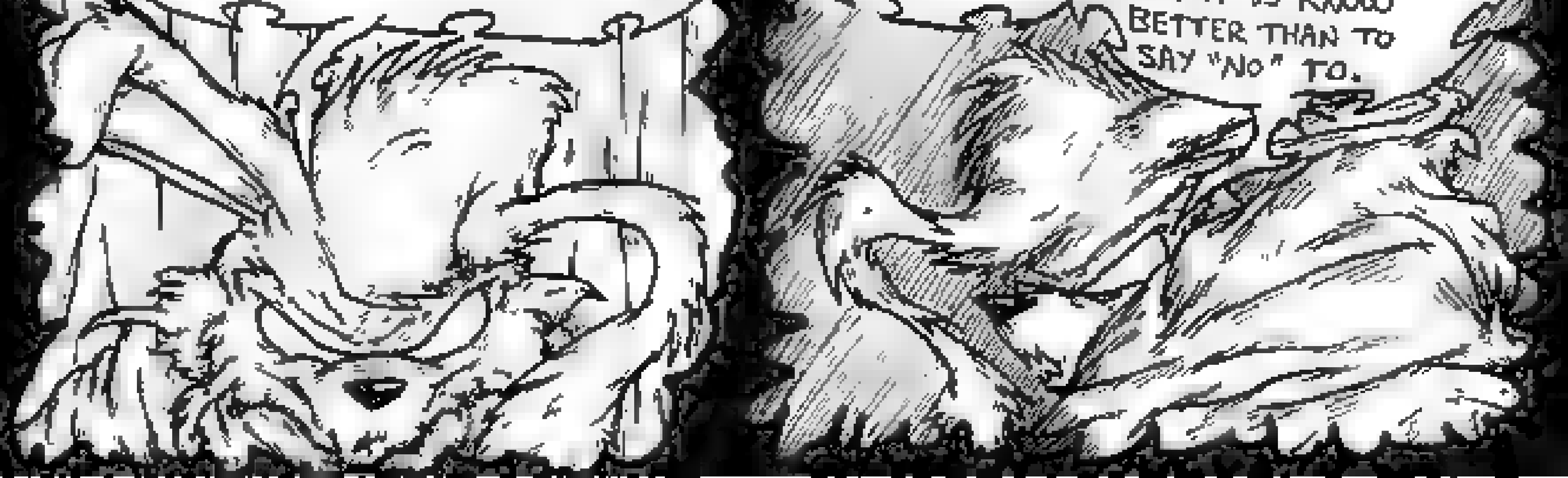
BROTHER...

KANE.



I WAS SENT TO GET  
HIM. TO BRING HIM OUT OF HERE.

SENT BY WHOM? SOMEONE THE  
BOTH OF US KNOW  
BETTER THAN TO  
SAY "NO" TO.



WHAT WOULD HE WANT WITH  
THAT ONE...?

HE WANTS TO  
SEE, HE SAID.

WANTS TO SEE IF TODD  
WILL REALLY COME TO  
HIM.

I AM TO PUSH TODD  
ONWARD.

MOLLY...?





TODD?



MOLLY!



GO AWAY. YOU CAN'T  
BE NEAR ME.




I'VE BECOME  
IMPOSSIBLE.




MOLLY...

I CAME  
HERE AFTER  
YOU TO BE  
WITH YOU.



AS LOST AS I GET, I WILL  
FIND YOU. THE DEEPER THE WOUND, I'M  
INSIDE YOU.



YOU AND ME, WE'RE IN THIS  
TOGETHER NOW.



PLEASE... GO  
AWAY.

I PRAYED FOR STRONG, HEALTHY  
CHILDREN. SONS YOU COULD  
BE PROUD OF.



BUT EVEN THEN, I COULD  
HEAR GOD LAUGHING AT ME!!



... I TRIED  
ANYWAY



BUT I HAD MADE  
THEM DEFECTIVE.



WHY DID YOU  
TAKE MY BOYS?!



WHY DO YOU HATE ME  
SO MUCH ???



IT'S NOT  
YOU,  
MOLLY...  
IT'S FATE.





YOU SHINE IN  
THIS WORLD FULL OF  
UGLINESS.



STOP IT.

I WON'T LET YOU  
FALL APART.



I AM APART,  
....OUR DEAD CHILDREN,  
TODD....



THAT WASN'T YOUR  
FAULT.



YOU WANTED A  
'BOY AND I DIDN'T  
WANT TO FAIL YOU.



THEY DIED AT  
BIRTH, MOLLY, YOU CANT  
BLAME YOURSELF —



THEY DIED BECAUSE  
I KILLED THEM!



I KILLED THEM  
BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T  
WANT A GIRL AND THAT'S  
ALL I COULD GIVE  
YOU!!



A black and white cartoon illustration of a character with a long, pointed snout and large, expressive eyes. The character is shown from the chest up, wearing a simple, light-colored garment. A large speech bubble originates from the character's mouth, containing the text: "I COULD NEVER—  
IN FACT, I CONFESS  
AS WELL. IN THE  
WAR..." The character's expression is one of earnestness or perhaps a bit of exasperation. The background is dark and textured, suggesting a night scene or a cave. The overall style is reminiscent of mid-20th-century comic book art.

... I WAS THERE  
TOO... I WAS LIKE  
YOU WHEN I —

AHHH!

WHAT? WHAT??

OUR DAUGHTERS!!

OUR DAUGHTERS!

АHHH!

THEY'VE FOUND ME.



MOLLY! LET'S  
GO!!

I'M THEIR  
MOTHER. I CAN  
LOVE THEM.

I CAN SAVE  
THEM! NO  
ONE ELSE CAN.

NO!

COME TO YOUR MOTHER, GIRLS

OH, MY DAUGHTERS...  
MY BEAUTIFUL LITTLE  
WOMEN...

SO MUCH TO TEACH  
YOU. SO MUCH YOU  
MUST LEARN ABOUT LIFE,  
LOVE, AND THE GOLDEN RULE.

...DO ONTO OTHERS...?

YES! YES, THAT'S  
RIGHT! YOU GIRLS MUST  
ALWAYS DO ONTO OTHERS AS  
YOU WOULD HAVE DONE ONTO  
Y—

MOLLY!!

URLK!





GIRLS...



JESUS!  
MOLLY!



SO... IS HELL  
JUST LIKE  
YOU  
IMAGINED?



WHY MOLLY?  
SHE WAS AN  
INNOCENT!

STILL  
BLAMING  
FATE, I SEE



NO ONE IS INNOCENT HERE.



YOUR EXTENDED FAMILY IS COMING THIS WAY. GO,  
I WILL MAKE SURE THEY DON'T FOLLOW.

AFTER A WHILE, I NEEDED TO  
REST. I WOKE UP TO  
FIND MYSELF STILL IN THE  
OTHER PLACE.

I WONDER HOW FAR  
THIS HAS GONE AND  
JUST HOW DAMAGED  
HAVE I BECOME...?

YOU...

YOU'RE HURT.

MEH, I'M  
SORRY. I  
SHOULD  
BE GOING.

TO SOME EXTENT,  
I COULD HEAL YOU.  
MAKE YOU LOOK AS  
YOU DID BEFORE THE  
REWORKS CLAIMED YOU.

THOUGH I CAN'T FIX YOUR  
EYES...

UH HUH,  
AND THE  
CATCH...?

...BE WITH  
ME...

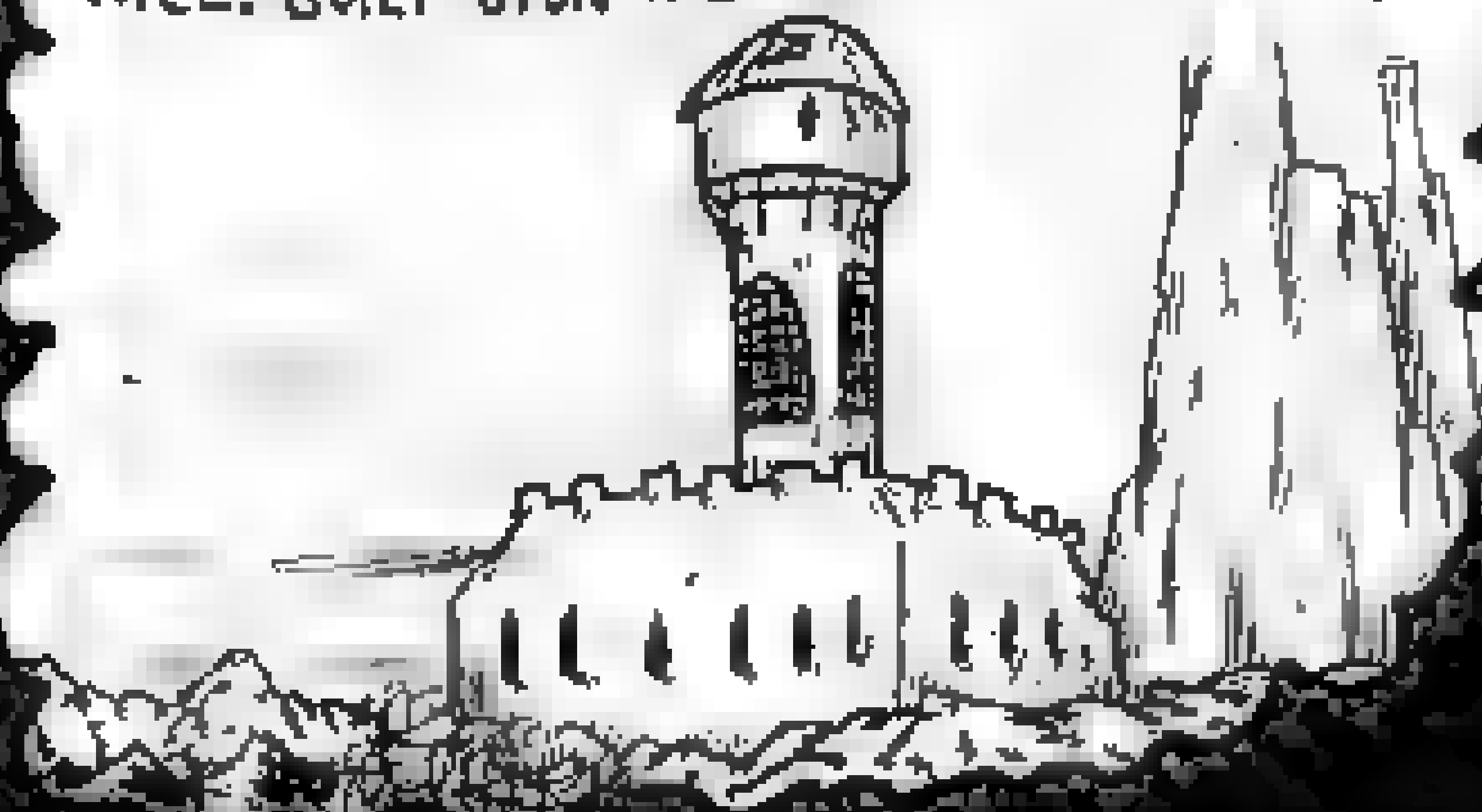
ONE LOOK TOLD ME  
SHE WAS A LONELY  
OLD HAG.

WELL...

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND YOUR  
WOUNDS, YOUR DAMAGE, IT RUNS  
EVEN DEEPER. AND I CAN MAKE  
YOU LOOK NORMAL AGAIN.

JUST FOLLOW  
ME.

FOR BEING IN HELL, HER HOME WAS  
NICE. BUILT UPON THE SHORE OF THE STYX.



SHE DIDN'T MAKE A FUSS OR  
WASTE TIME. I WAS LED STRAIGHT  
TO HER CHAMBERS.



THE LIGHTS WENT DOWN..



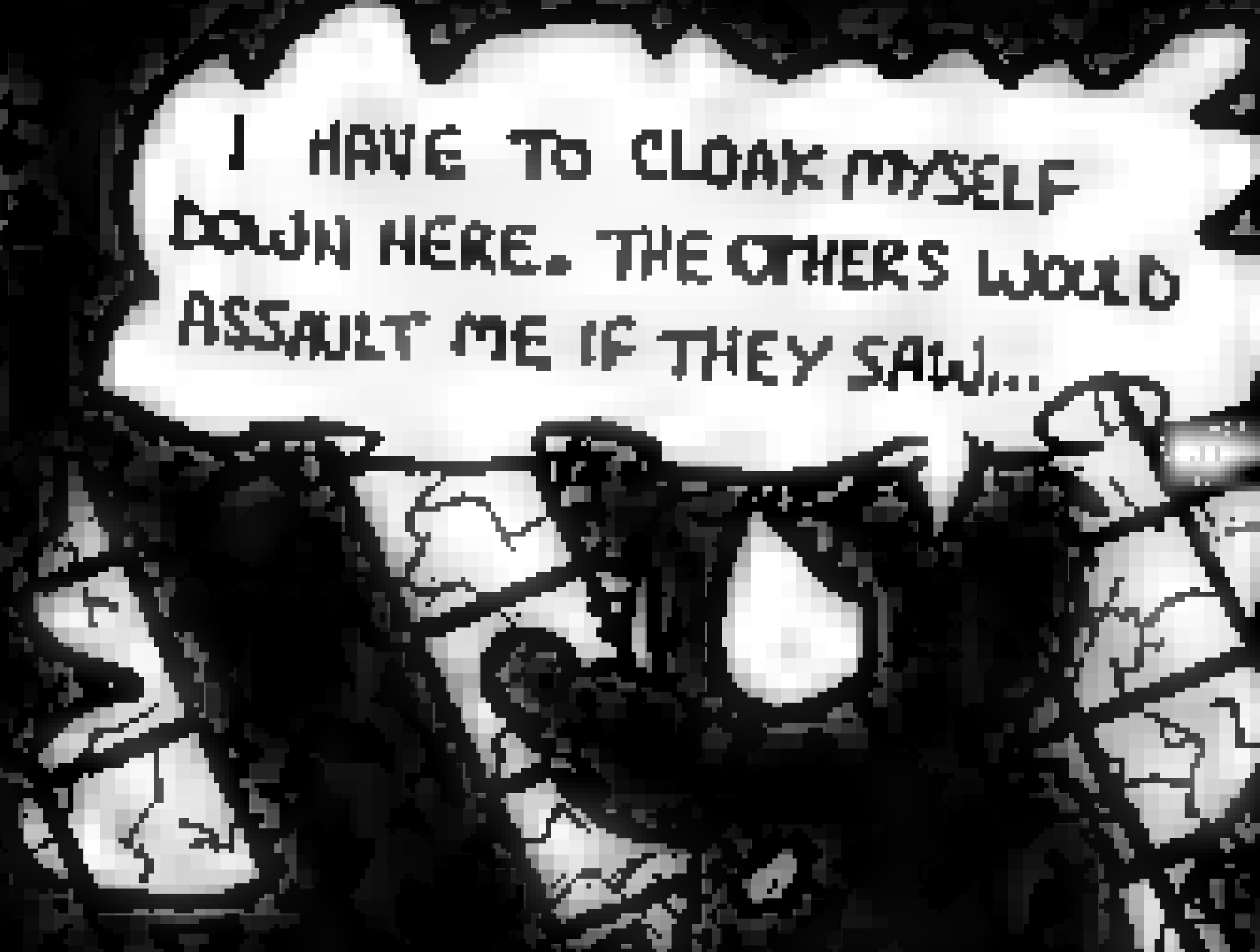
AND HER ROBE CAME  
OFF.



SHE WAS PRETTY.



I HAVE TO CLOAK MYSELF  
DOWN HERE. THE OTHERS WOULD  
ASSAULT ME IF THEY SAW...

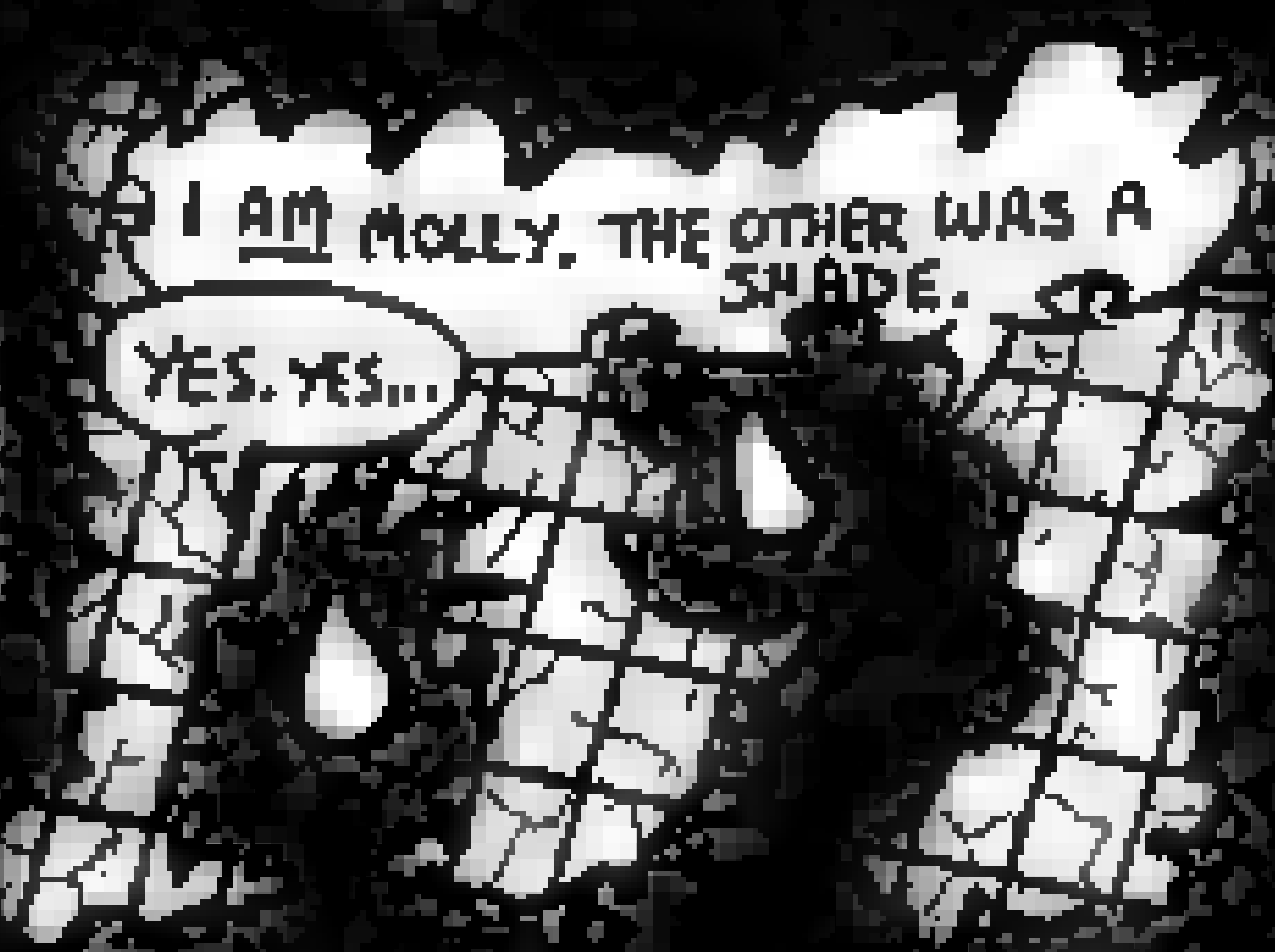


MY GOD, YOU LOOK  
JUST LIKE MY MOLLY!



I AM MOLLY. THE OTHER WAS A  
SHADE.


YES. YES...



BUT, HOW DID—

NO QUESTIONS.  
JUST LOVE  
ME.





I LOVED HER.  
I REVELED IN  
THE MINGLING OF  
OUR WARMTH.

AND HER BODY HEALED ME.

WAS WITH HER FULLY  
ONCE MORE.

I WAS  
HAPPY.

FATE HAD  
BROUGHT US  
BACK.

SAY IT, C

I LOVE  
YOU, MOLLY.

YOUR GIRL'S GOT  
A PROBLEM...

SHE'S TRYING HARD  
TO HIDE.

NO!

SHE WANTS YOU TO  
STAY FOCUSED ON HER  
SURFACE...

BECAUSE EVERYTHING ELSE IS DEAD ON  
THE OTHER SIDE.

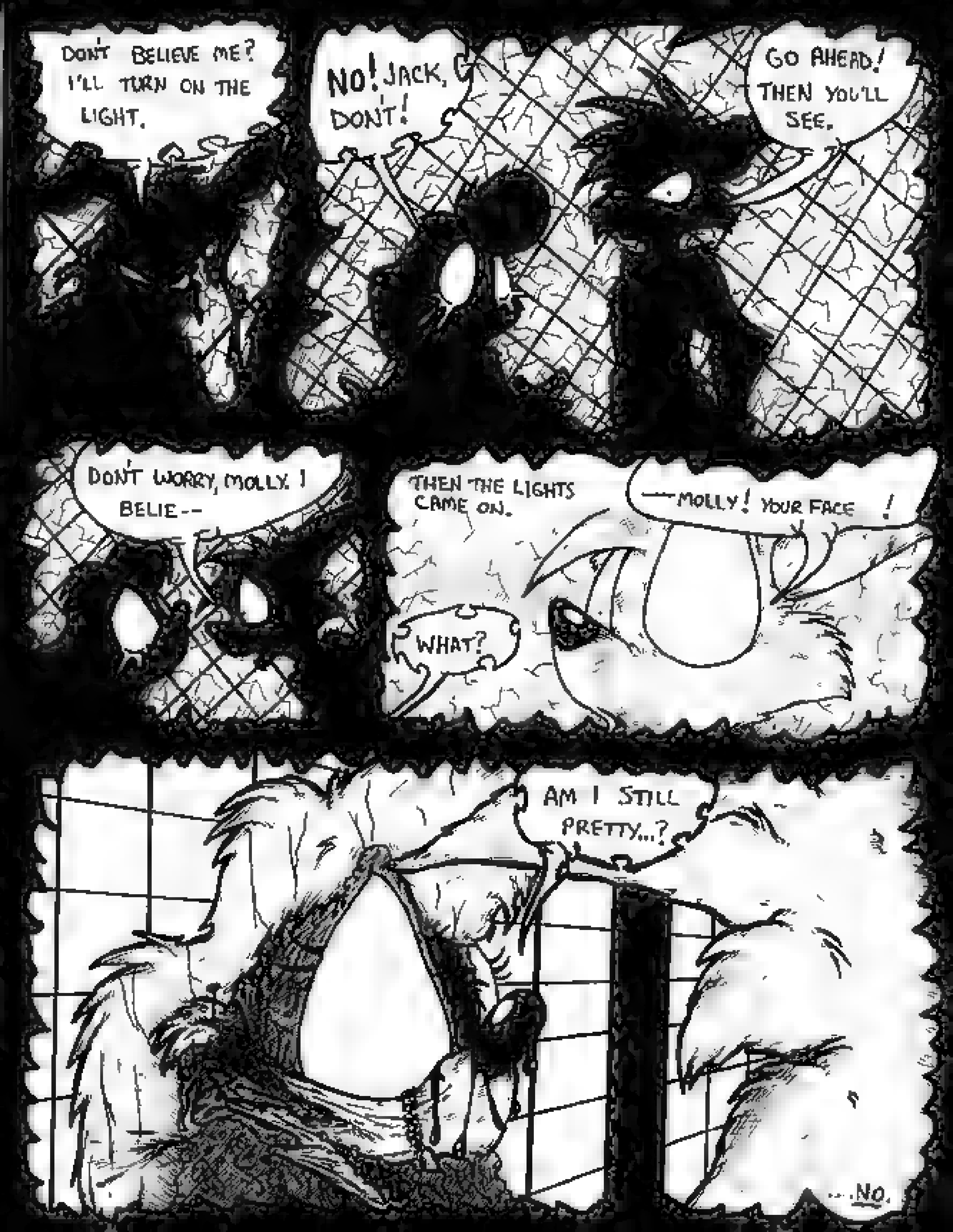
YOU  
GET OUT!

YOU'RE SLEEPING  
WITH VANITY!

SHUT UP! I'M  
BEAUTIFUL!  
BEAUTIFUL!!

DON'T YOU TALK TO MY  
WIFE THAT WAY!!





DON'T BELIEVE ME?  
I'LL TURN ON THE  
LIGHT.

NO! JACK, DON'T!

GO AHEAD!  
THEN YOU'LL  
SEE.

DON'T WORRY, MOLLY. I  
BELIE--


THEN THE LIGHTS  
CAME ON.

—MOLLY! YOUR FACE!

WHAT?

AM I STILL  
PRETTY...?


...NO.



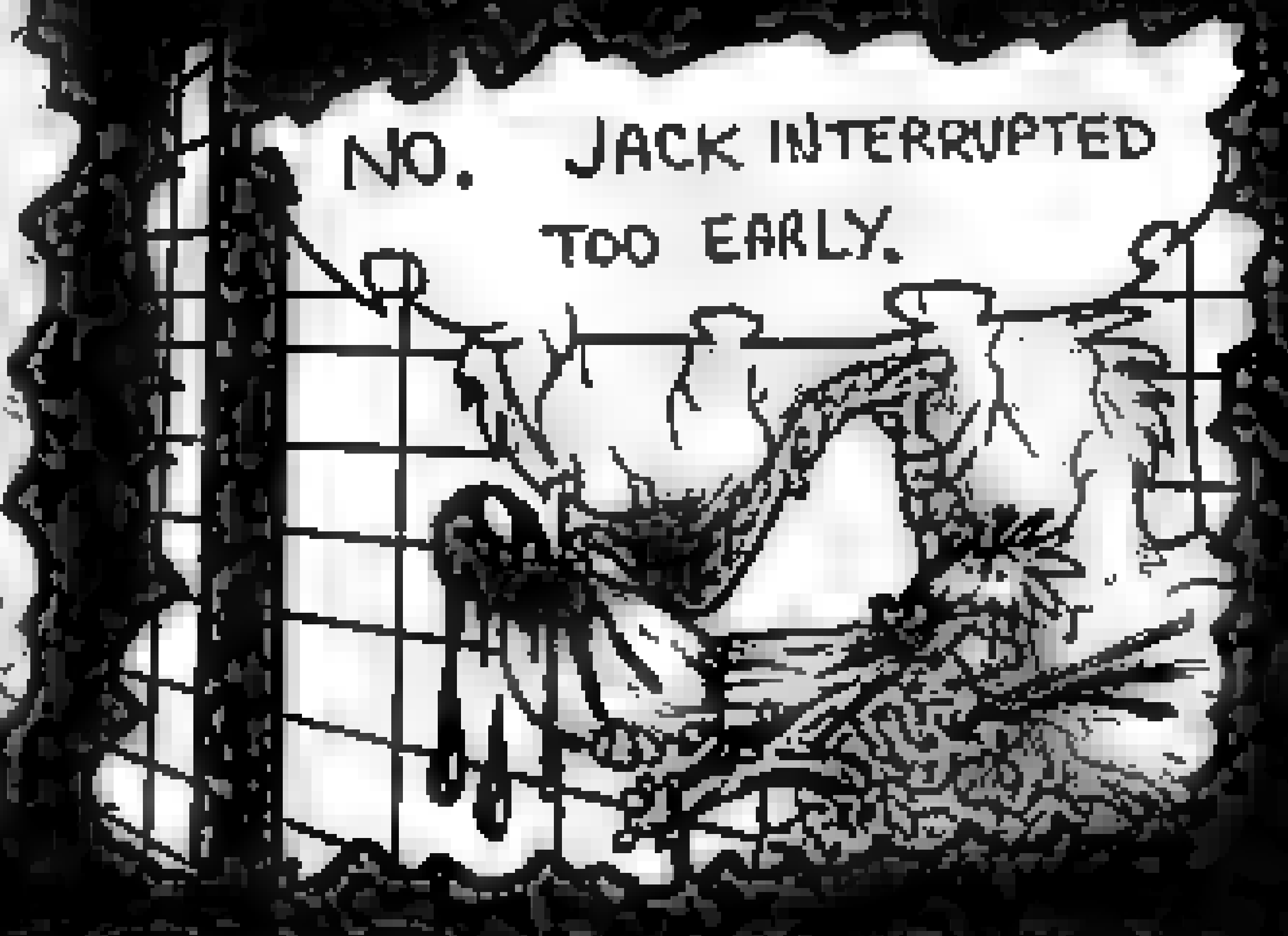
YOU'RE NOT MOLLY!  
HER FACE! HOW....??



HELLO,  
DADDY...




DO WE HAVE A NEW BABY  
BROTHER?



NO. JACK INTERRUPTED  
TOO EARLY.



W-WHAT?!  
WHAT'S GOING ON??



IT'S JUST  
HELL, TODD.  
LET'S GET OUT  
OF HERE.

I WAS PANICKING



MOLLY BUTCHERED  
WITH A FALSE MOLLY  
WEARING HER SKIN



AND THAT REAPER FELLOW  
WANTING TO TAKE ME  
SOMEWHERE I DON'T WANT  
TO BE...

TODD!



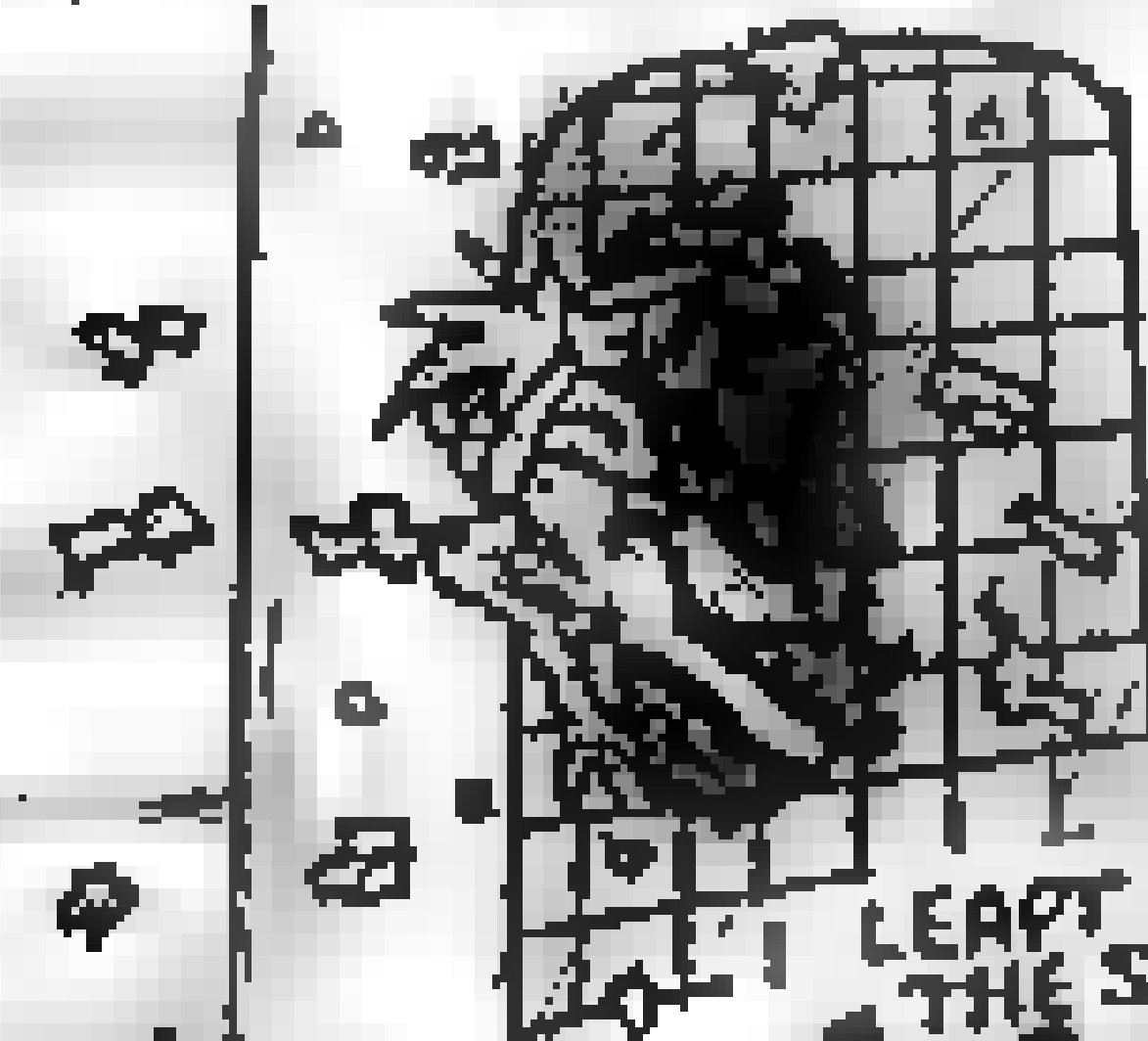
AN OLD POEM GAVE  
ME MY SOLUTION.



ESCAPE THE SAME  
WAY I DID BEFORE.



KILL MYSELF AGAIN.



LEAPT INTO  
THE STYX

AND WHEN THE DAY ARRIVES, I'LL  
BECOME THE SKY AND I'LL BECOME THE  
SEA...



AND THE SEA WILL COME TO  
KISS ME, FOR I AM GOING HOME"



I DESCENDED FROM GRACE IN THE ARMS OF THE UNDERTOW...

I WOULD TAKE MY PLACE IN  
THE GREAT BELOW...

THAT IS, UNTIL I SAW THEM.

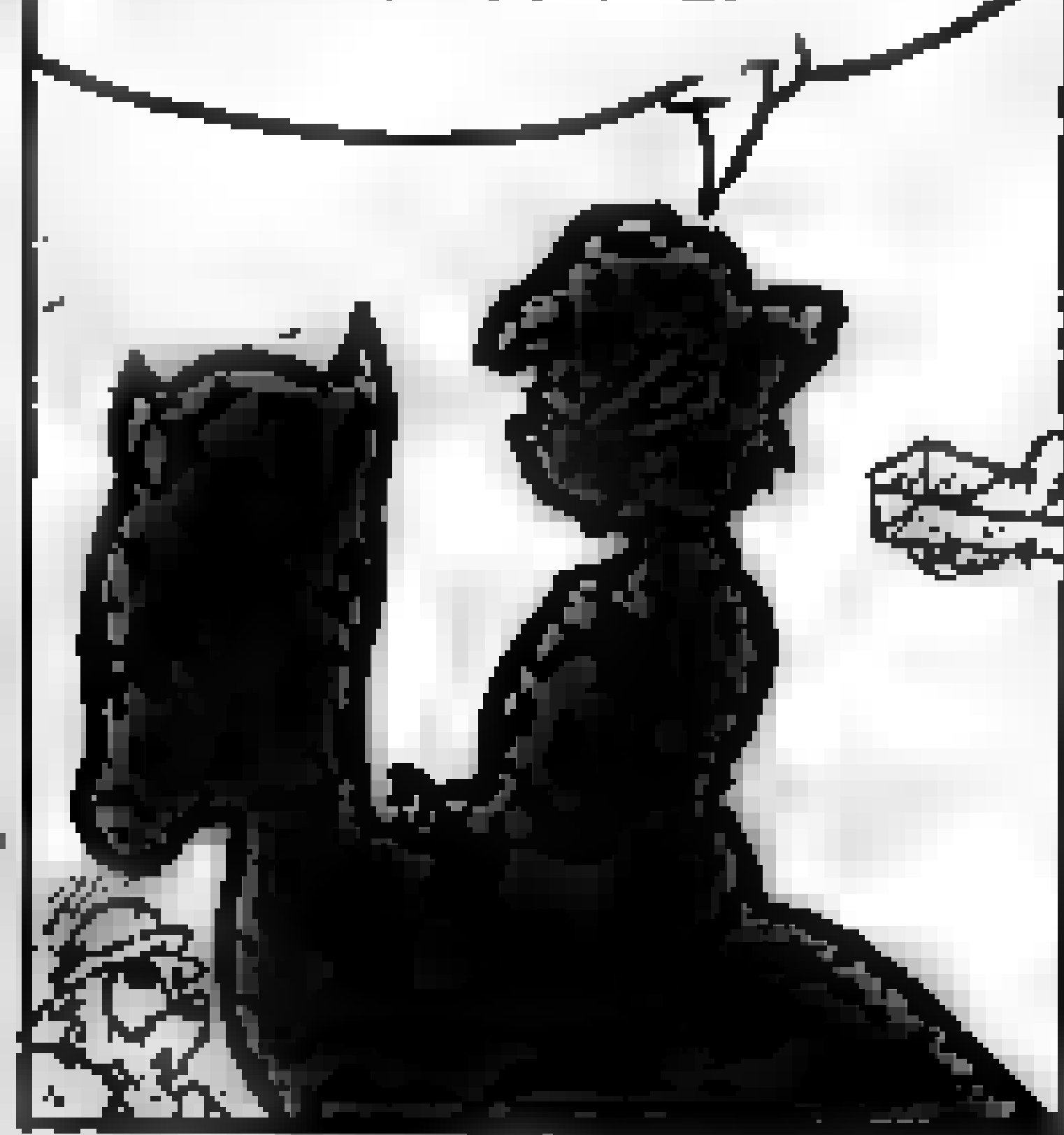
HUNDREDS OF  
EYES!!

NO . NOT HUNDREDS, I  
THOUGHT.

EXACTLY ONE HUNDRED  
AND THIRTY-TWO PAIRS.

SIR! I COUNT EXACTLY ONE  
HUNDRED AND THIRTY TWO.

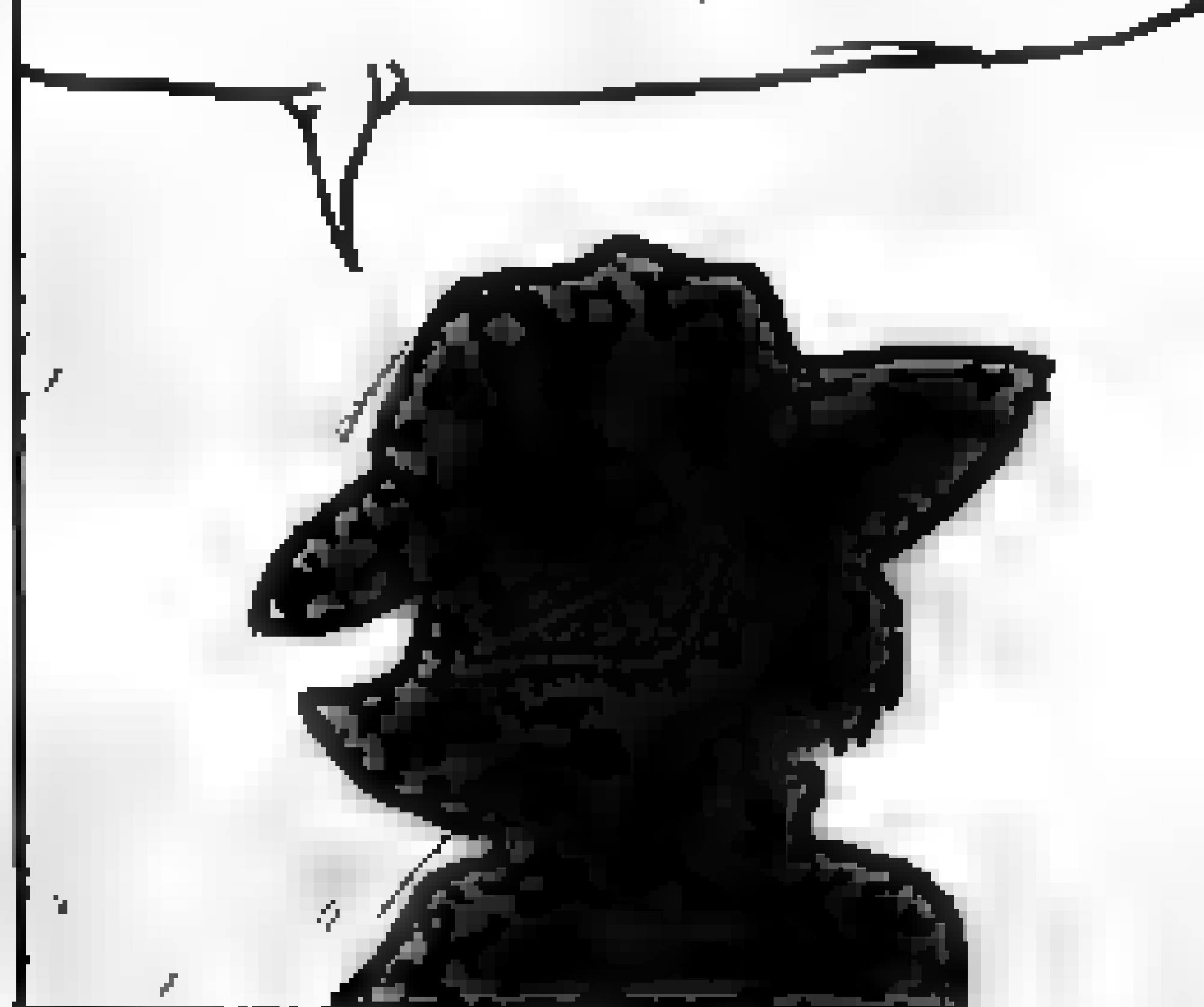
SHOOT THEM, SOLDIER. MAKE SURE NONE SURVIVE.



B-BUT SIR, THEY'RE ONLY-



WHAT'S YOUR NAME, SOLDIER?



TODD SIR. TOD ME STOP!



TODD IS ENOUGH.



TODD, WE'VE SHELLED THEIR HOMES AND KILLED THEIR PARENTS. YOU THINK THEY MAY HATE US FOR THAT?



IT WOULD FOLLOW, SIR.



INDEED, TODD. THEY WILL GROW UP HATING US. WE CAN EITHER HANDLE THIS PROBLEM NOW, OR WAIT UNTIL THEY ARE CAPABLE OF HARMING OUR NATION AND ITS PEOPLE BESIDES WHICH, YOU ARE UNDER ORDERS.



MAKE ME PROVD SOLDIER



EXACTLY ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-TWO.





I SWAM UP AS FAST  
AS I COULD.

IF THE CHILDREN MOLLY  
KILLED FOLLOWED HER  
HERE AND KILLED HER..

THEN THERE IS NO NEED TO GUESS WHAT  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY TWO COULD DO TO  
ME.



NO DOUBT FATE KNEW  
WOULD BE COMING AND HAD  
THE CHILDREN WAIT FOR  
ME



GOOD MORNING.

WHAT'RE YOU  
DOING OUT ON THE  
STYX?



.. YOU OKAY?

HOW DID YOU FIX  
YOUR EYES..?



I'VE BEEN IN HELL  
A LONG TIME. I'VE  
NEVER SEEN EYES LIKE  
YOURS DOWN HERE.

WHY DON'T YOU COME  
ABOARD? WE'RE HEADED  
TO THE DOCKS OF THE  
NECROPOLIS.

THANK YOU. I'M TODD.

YOU WANTED  
TO KNOW ABOUT  
OUR EYES?

YES.

SHE'S REALLY  
FROM HEAVEN.  
SHE'S JUST VISITING.

I HAVE TAKEN  
THE FIRST STEP IN  
LEAVING HELL. ADMITTING  
GUILT.

WHAT'S THE  
SECOND STEP?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT  
AFTER ALL I'VE  
UNDERGONE, I'LL KEEP  
ON. I'LL KNOW SOME-  
DAY.

WHAT IF YOU'RE NOT  
GUILTY OF ANYTHING?

OH, COME ON  
TODD. WHY WOULD YOU  
BE HERE IF YOU DON'T  
DO ANYTHING?

BECAUSE NONE OF MY  
CHOICES IN LIFE ARE MY OWN  
AND IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN  
FATE'S DOING.

THAT SOUNDS  
LIKE AN EXCUSE  
TO ME...

I THINK ITS  
TRUE

FATE IS THE ONLY  
WAY TO EXPLAIN WHY  
GOD PUNISHES ME FOR  
WHAT HE MAKES ME  
DO.

OH, TODD, YOU TALK AS  
IF GOD HATES YOU, SHE  
DOESN'T HATE YOU.

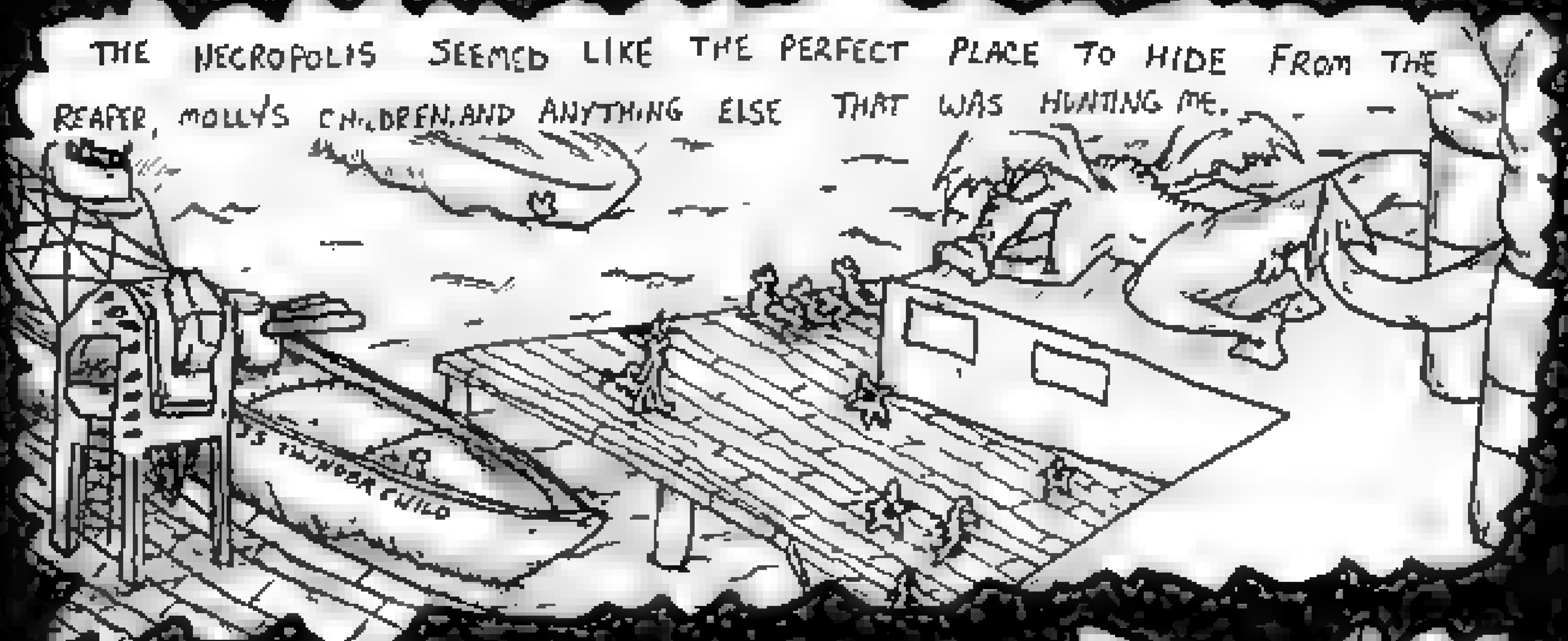
THANK YOU F-OR THE  
RIDE. I SHOULD GO NOW.

GOOD LUCK TODD.  
BE CAREFUL IN THE  
NECROPOLIS.

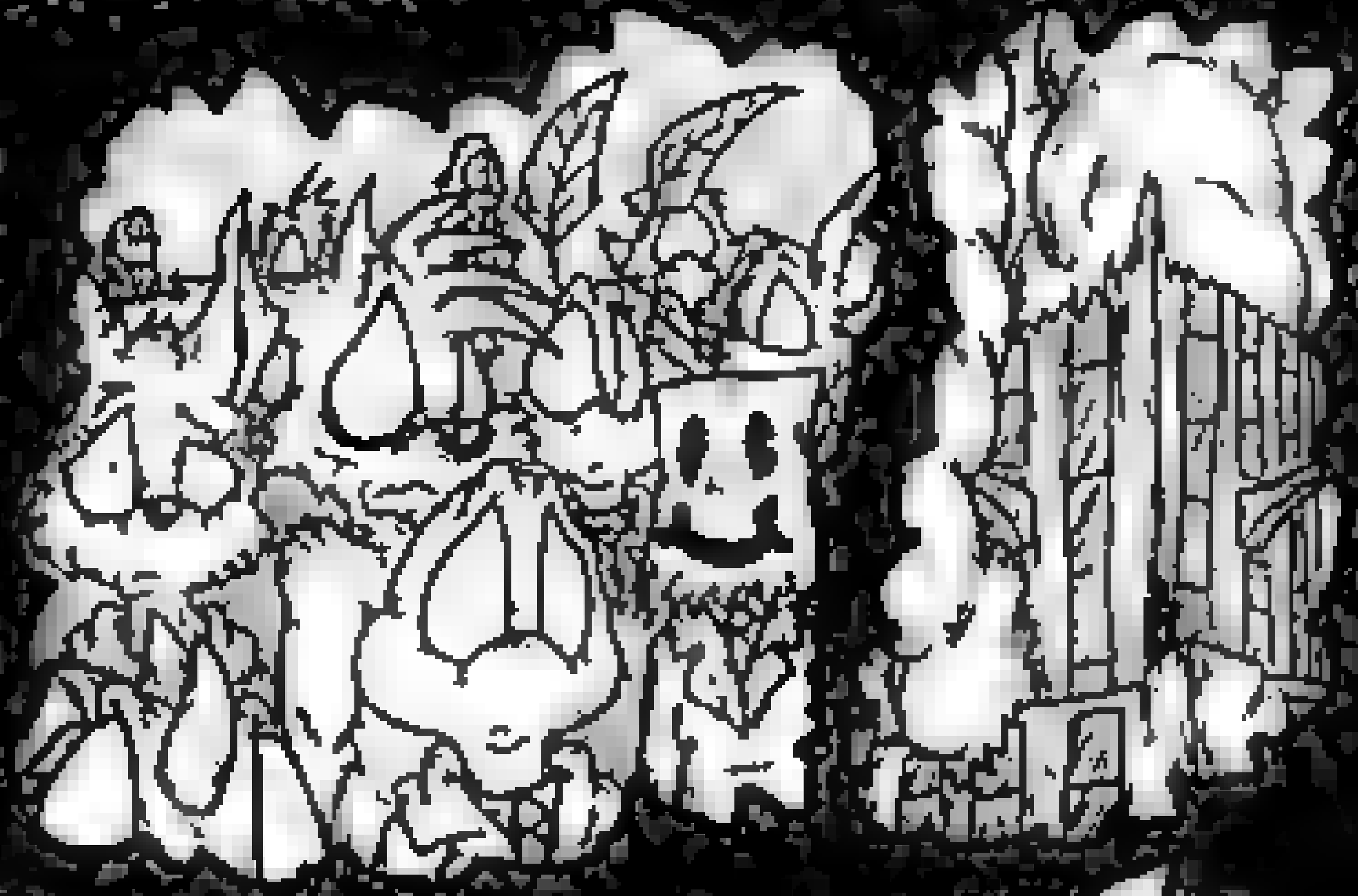
TRY TO UNDERSTAND  
THE TRUTH. IT WILL  
SAVE YOU.

I'VE TRIED TO SAVE  
MYSELF, BUT MYSELF  
KEEPS SLIPPING AWAY.

THE NECROPOLIS SEEMED LIKE THE PERFECT PLACE TO HIDE FROM THE REAPER, MOLLY'S CHILDREN, AND ANYTHING ELSE THAT WAS HUNTING ME.



WELCOME  
TO  
DIS



HOW LONG HAS THAT  
BUILDING BEEN BURNING...?

YOU ASK THAT LIKE THERE WAS  
EVER A TIME WHEN IT WASN'T BURNING.



HEY, YOU  
THERE!



HUH?

I JUST  
ATE.

DON'T WORRY, I  
WON'T BITE. BESIDES.

UM. CAN I HELP  
YOU?

DID YOU KNOW THAT AFTER "FRIGHTENED  
VIRGIL" THAT MOTHERFUCKER IS  
GOING TO DO A STORY THAT ISN'T  
EVEN AN ARC?

SOME BULLSHIT  
ABOUT A RADIO SHOW.

FORGIVE THE ABSENCE  
OF MY LOWER HALF, SHE'S  
HUNGRY. HEHE.

SPEAKING OF THAT BITCH,  
HER BIOLOGICAL CLOCK  
IS TICKING, I CANT FUCK  
HER ANYMORE, AND YOU'RE  
DRESSED APPROPRIATELY.

NO THANKS. I'M DONE  
NAILING FOLKS THAT  
TALK LIKE YOU.

HA! I KNOW WHAT YOU  
MEAN! I WISH I'D  
NEVER DONE HER EITHER!

ERR...DO YOU BELIEVE IN  
FATE?

WHAT A GOD-DAMNED ODD THING TO ASK.  
I SUPPOSE IT WASN'T FATE THAT L SA KILLED ME.  
BUT HEY, MAYBE IT WAS FATE THAT I KILLED HER RIGHT  
BACK.

HMM.

OR MAYBE YOU MEANT SOMETHING LIKE THE FACT  
THAT THIS SCENE ONLY EXISTS TO FORESHADOW  
SOME POLANSKI-ESQUE STORY HE'S WRITING.

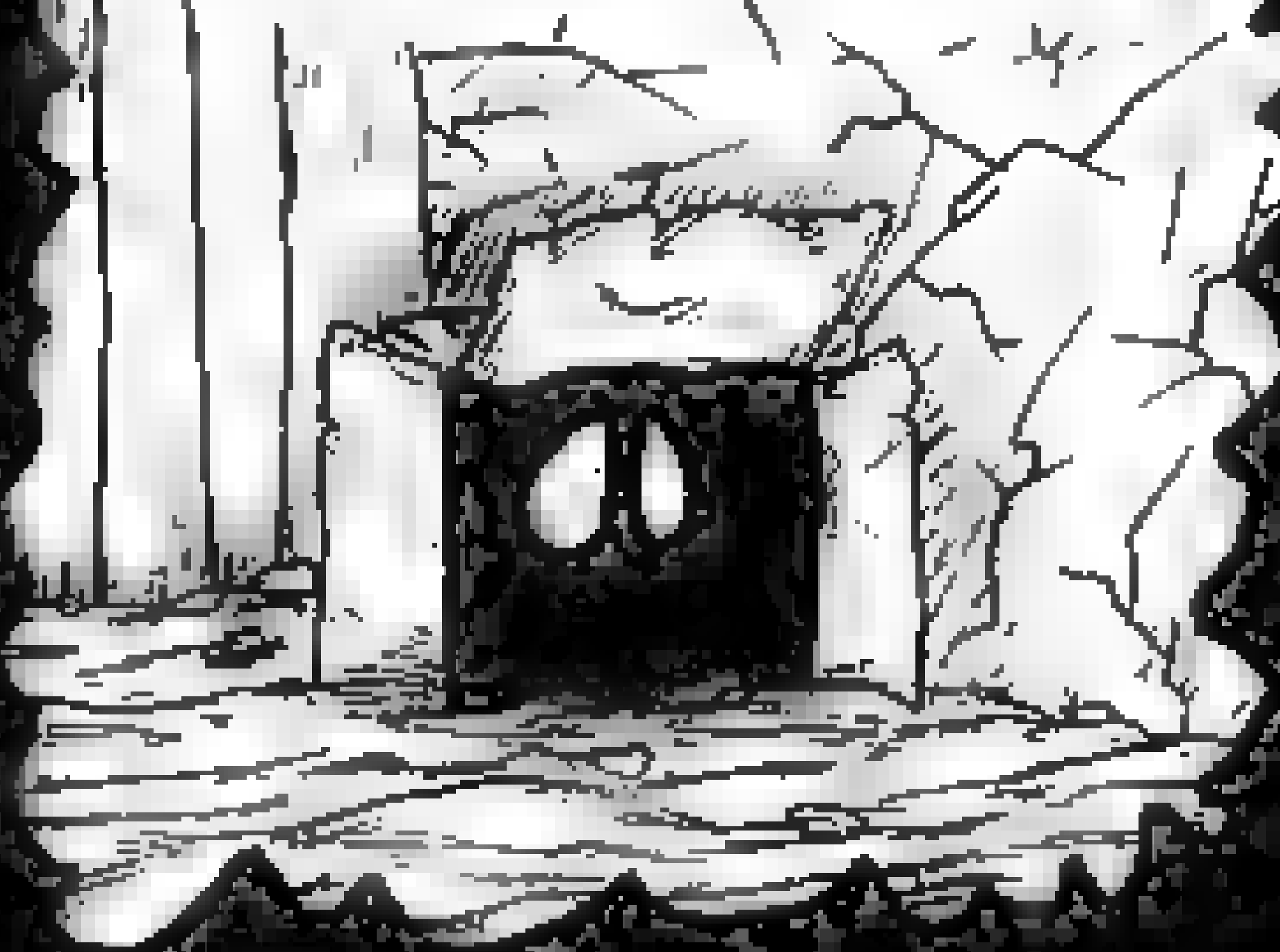
WHAT?

NOTHING.

AH.... IT APPEARS MY "BELOVED  
LIFEMATE" IS FINISHED. YOU  
OUGHT TO GO, NOW.

...WE'RE GETTING  
HUNGRY AGAIN.

THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS  
I FOUND A BOX TO LIVE OUT OF.



I WAS NEVER BORED,  
UNFORTUNATELY.



THERE WAS  
ALWAYS SOMETHING  
TO WATCH.



AND THEN, ONE FATEFUL  
DAY...



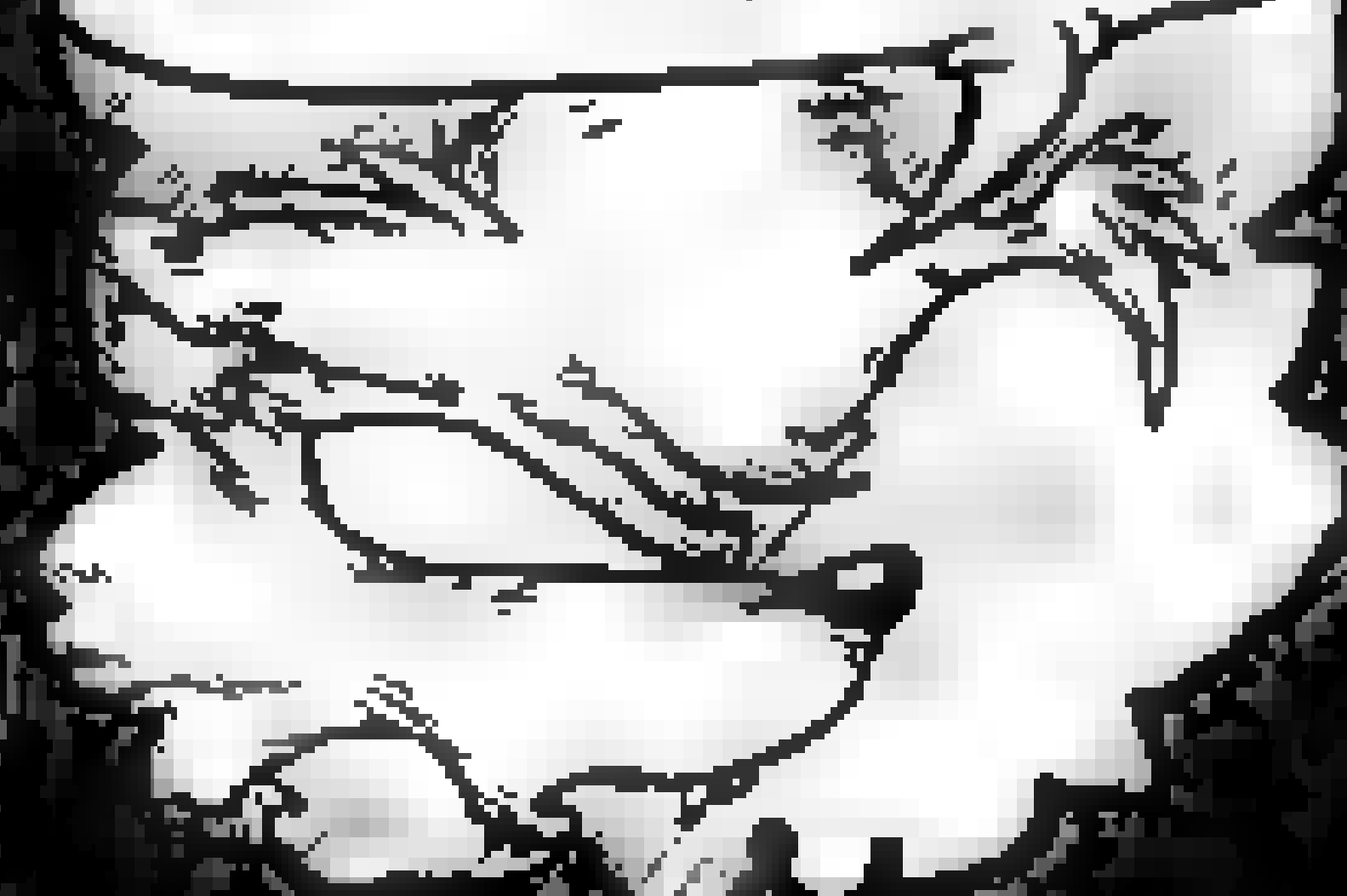
I GOT A ROOMMATE.



I TELL YA...  
WHERE IS EVERYBODY?



NOT THESE SHADOWS, BUT  
REAL PEOPLE, YA KNOW?



AT LEAST BOTH MY EYES MATCH  
NOW... COURSE, NOW THEY'RE  
BOTH DEAD.



YOU WERE A SOLDIER TOO,  
RIGHT? A DOUGHBOY?



YES.

THEY CALLED  
ME A BABYKILLER

ALTHOUGH HE WAS  
YOUNGER, CLIFF WAS  
THE CLOSEST  
THING TO A  
FRIEND I'VE  
HAD SINCE I  
FIRST BOARDED THE  
TRAIN TO THE FRONT



WHERE IS  
EVERYBODY?

WHO CARES.  
YOU COMING  
OUT OR WHAT?

OF COURSE I AM,  
BUT ARE YOU  
SURE ITS SAFE?

NO, BUT I  
HAVENT EATEN  
IN SEVEN MONTHS  
AND I SWEET  
BREAKFAST.

WELL?

WHERE IS EVERYBODY?

THERE SHOULD BE PLEADING AND NEEDING AND BLEEDING  
AND BREEDING AND FEEDING

TRYING & LYING, DEFYING,  
DENYING, CRYING & DYING..

DAMNIT WHERE IS  
EVERYBODY?!

WELL, I SEE  
AB IS STILL  
HERE.

THE END  
IS  
NEAR!  
THE FAGGOTS  
ARE COMING!

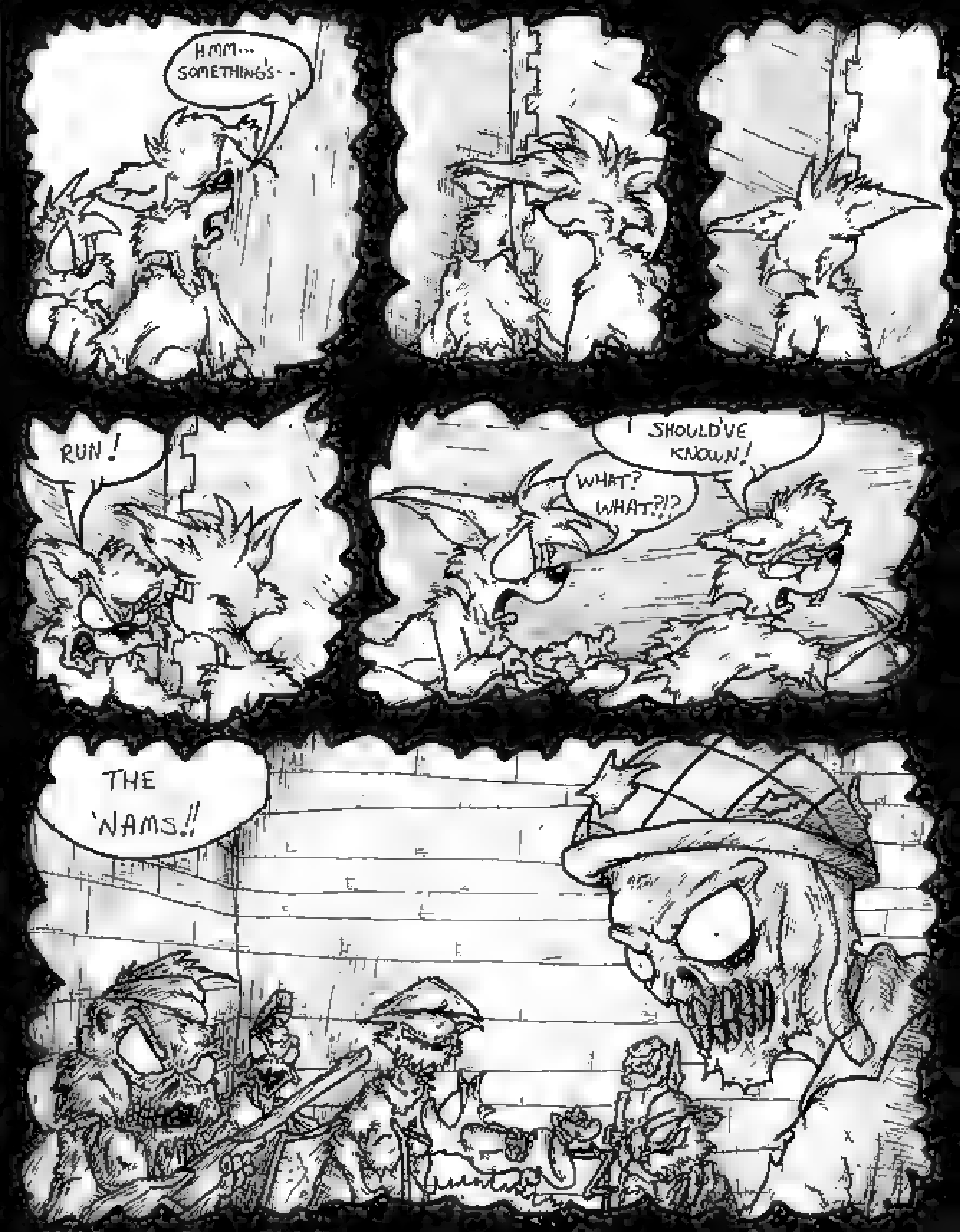
HMM...  
SOMETHING'S...

RUN!

I SHOULD'VE  
KNOWN!

WHAT?  
WHAT?!

THE  
'NAMS!!



THE 'NAMS, I LATER FOUND OUT, ARE A GROUP WHO ENJOYED AND PROFITED FROM WAR IN LIFE. I THINK I RECOGNIZED THE KESER,



RUNNING WAS A VERY GOOD IDEA.

THEY OCCASIONALLY TAKE OVER THE NECROPOLIS, SHOOTING AT ANYTHING THEY SEE. THE ONLY WAY TO GET RID OF THEM IS FOR VINCE TO RELEASE HIS—



FUCKING SHIT...



TODD!

I REMEMBER THINKING  
"IF I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS  
HELL,

THE MARK HAS BEEN  
MADE NOW"

TODD!  
KEEP U--

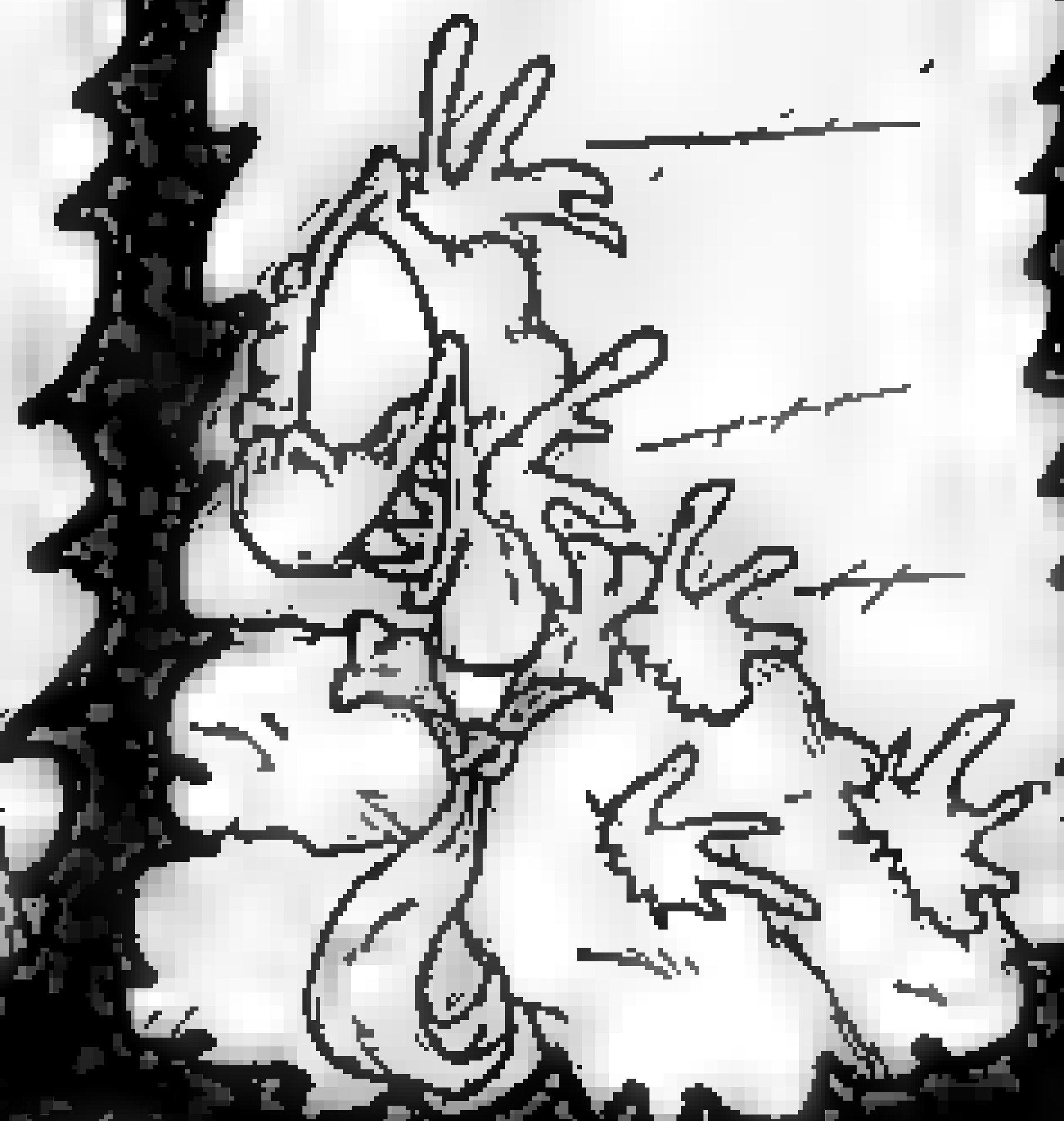
UFF!!

SAY, WEREN'T YOU THE PRESIDENT  
OF PATHMAKER PRODUCTS?

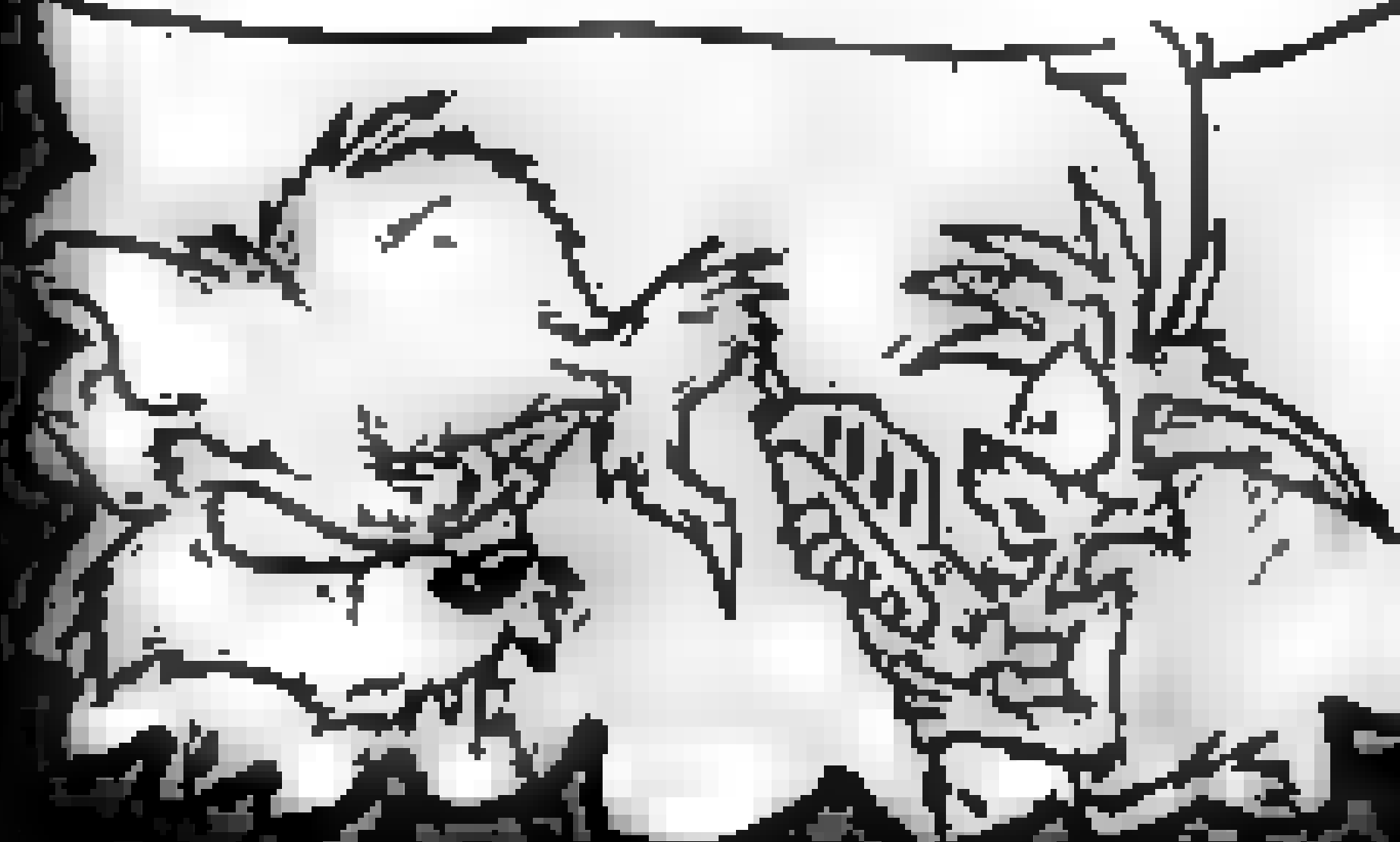
TODD!!  
HELP ME!

I KNOW YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT  
WALKING AWAY, BUT YOU BETTER  
FUCKING HELP ME!

TODD!



WOW! THIS SURELY IS A WEAPON OF MASS DESTRUCTION!



IF YOU'D ONLY WAITED ABOUT TWENTY YEARS TO DIE, YOU COULD HAVE SEEN THE ATOMIC BOMB.



THE WHAT?!



WE LAID LOW UNTIL THE NECROPOLIS RETURNED TO NORMAL...

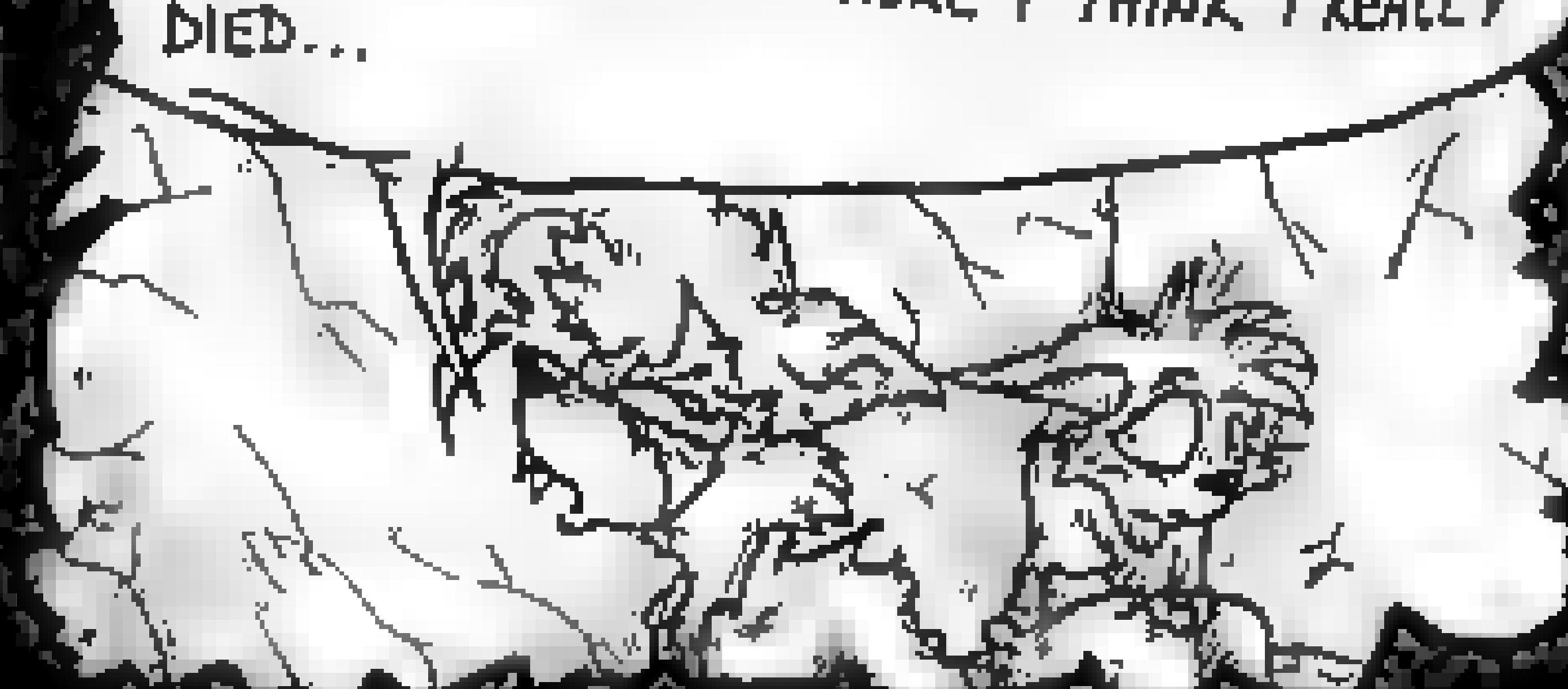


AS NORMAL AS IT GETS.

WE HID OUT IN A PLACE CALLED  
"THE OBLONG TOMB"



I LIVED THE FIRST PORTION OF MY LIFE  
AS A HERO. A COP-TURNED-SOLDIER BUT  
THE BATTLEFIELD IS WHERE I THINK I REALLY  
DIED...



I LIVED THE REST OF  
MY LIFE AS AN INSTRUMENT  
OF VENGEANCE, FULL-KNOWING NO  
MATTER HOW MUCH REVENGE  
I GOT, IT'D NEVER BE  
ENOUGH TO FILL ME UP.

I WONDER IF  
THE YOUNGER ME  
GOT TO HEAVEN.



WHAT WAS THE  
WORLD LIKE  
WHEN YOU WERE  
THERE, TOD?



DARK... COLD ..DECEPTIVE.

I MEAN, THEY HELD NOTHING BACK TELLING ME WHAT  
TO EXPECT FROM HELL. BUT, THEY NEVER TOLD ME A  
SMALL PORTION OF IT HAD SURFACED IN THE  
TRENCH.



THERE IS NO GLORY IN  
BATTLE

OF COURSE  
NOT...

GLORY IS IN VICTORY! BECAUSE ONLY  
THE VICTORS ARE LEFT TO TELL WHAT  
WAS SO DAMNED GLORIOUS ABOUT IT!



WHAT DID YOU DO  
TO GET SENT HERE, TODD?

WELL... DO YOU BELIEVE  
IN FATE?

No.

WELL, I DO. I THINK WE'RE FORCED  
INTO OUR ACTIONS AND CIRCUMSTANCES  
BY DESTINY.

GIVEN THE CHOICE  
WITHOUT DESTINY, I WOULDN'T  
HAVE KILLED THOSE  
CHILDREN —

...YOU KILLED  
CHILDREN?

WAIT!

YES... BUT I  
DIDN'T WANT TO. FATE,  
YOU SEE? I WAS UNDER  
ORDERS!

A REAL SOLDIER  
KNOWS WHEN HIS ORDERS  
ARE FULL OF  
SHIT!!

THEY CALLED ME  
AND MY FRIENDS  
BABYKILLERS!!

BUT IT  
WAS YOU!!



CLIFF, PLEASE! YOU  
DON'T UNDERSTAND!

I UNDERSTAND. WE BOTH MIGHT'VE SOLD OUR SOULS  
BUT YOU'RE THE WHORE WHO SOLD HIMSELF  
CHEAP!

HMPF... YOU'RE NO  
SOLDIER.

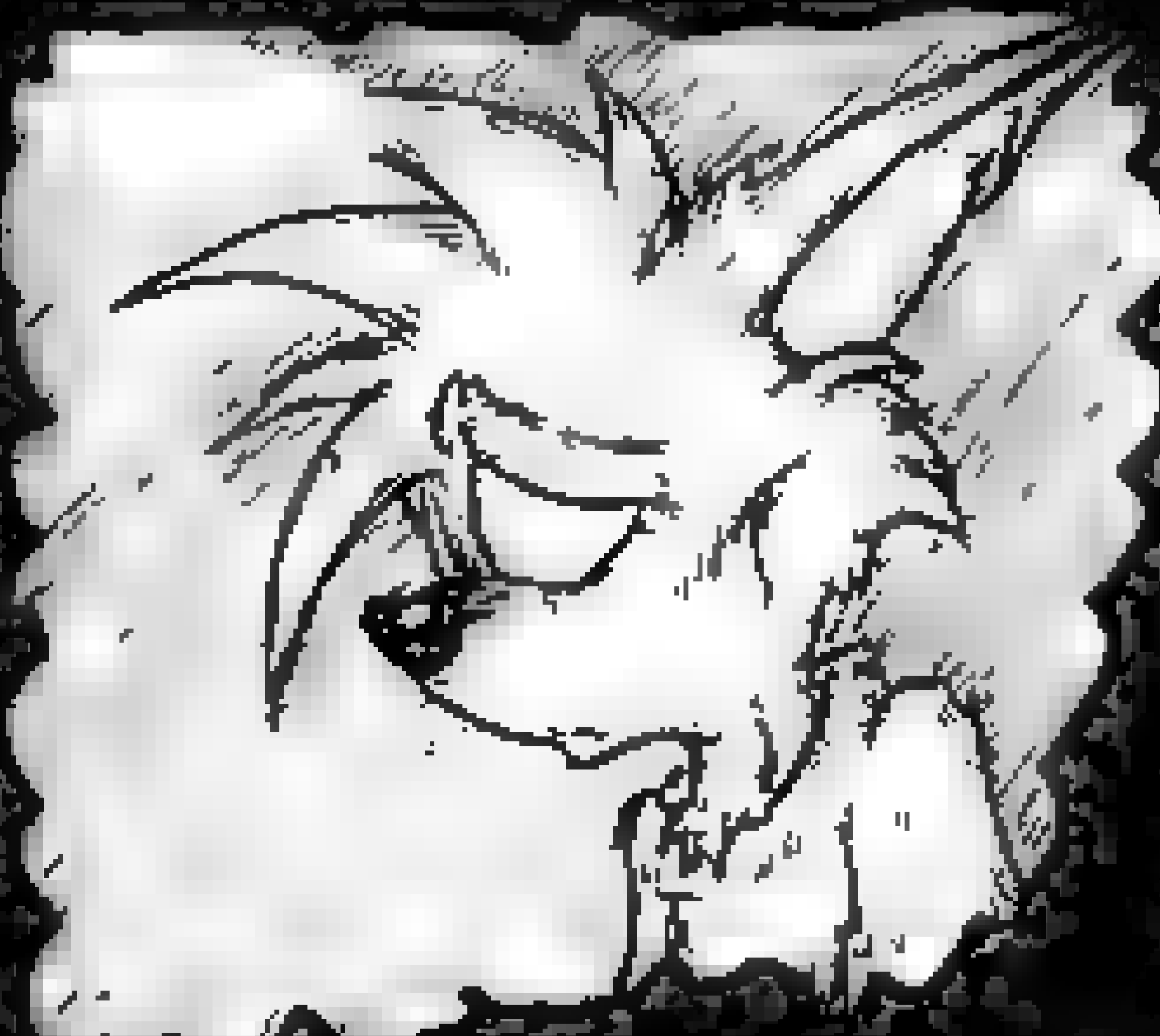
I CAN SEE  
WHAT YOUR  
PUNISHMENT HERE IS.

CLIFF--- I--- I SAVED  
YOU...

AND NOW I'LL  
RETURN THE FAVOR

GET  
OUT.





I WAS LOOKING DOWN FROM THE OBLONG TOMB.



FATE TOOK MY LAST FRIEND.



WALKING OFF THE EDGE WAS LOOKING GOOD. MAYBE THIS TIME THE FALL WOULD BE FATAL



DON'T DO THAT. JACK IS LOOKING FOR YOU.



YOU'RE AN ANGEL?

YES.



CAN YOU TELL ME WHY GOD HATES SOLDIERS?



OH, TODD... THAT'S NOT TRUE!



I KNOW. I WAS A SOLDIER.



I WAS IN HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL  
ARMED INFANTRY IN THE DAYS BEFORE  
GUNS AND ARTILLERY.

BUT THEN, YOU  
WERE IN THE DAYS  
BEFORE UTIS, RPGS,  
JETS, BARS, SAWS, LASERS,  
POWER ARMOR, AND  
PATHMAKERS.

I GUESS...  
THERE'S SO  
MUCH COMPLICATION

IT'LL BE CLEAR AS  
SOON AS JACK GETS HERE

I DON'T WANT TO GO WITH JACK!

LOOK, I'VE DONE ALL I  
CAN DO. CAN I PLEASE GO WITH  
YOU?

TO HEAVEN? MAYBE  
SOMEDAY... BUT NOT  
NOW

DO ME  
A FAVOR,  
TODD...

DON'T RUN  
ANYMORE

TODD...

THERE IS NO PLACE YOU  
CAN GO, THERE IS NO PLACE  
YOU CAN HIDE.



LET'S GO, TOOD



.. AND WE WENT  
WITHOUT MOVING.

SO..  
WHERE  
ARE WE  
GOING?



UNDERNEATH IT ALL. THE LOWEST POINT  
OF ALL THINGS. THE NINTH CIRCLE.



THE NINTH CIR—  
ISN'T THAT TH—  
THE—

Yes



YOU SAID YOU WANTED  
TO MEET THE MANAGEMENT.  
SHE IS EXPECTING YOU.



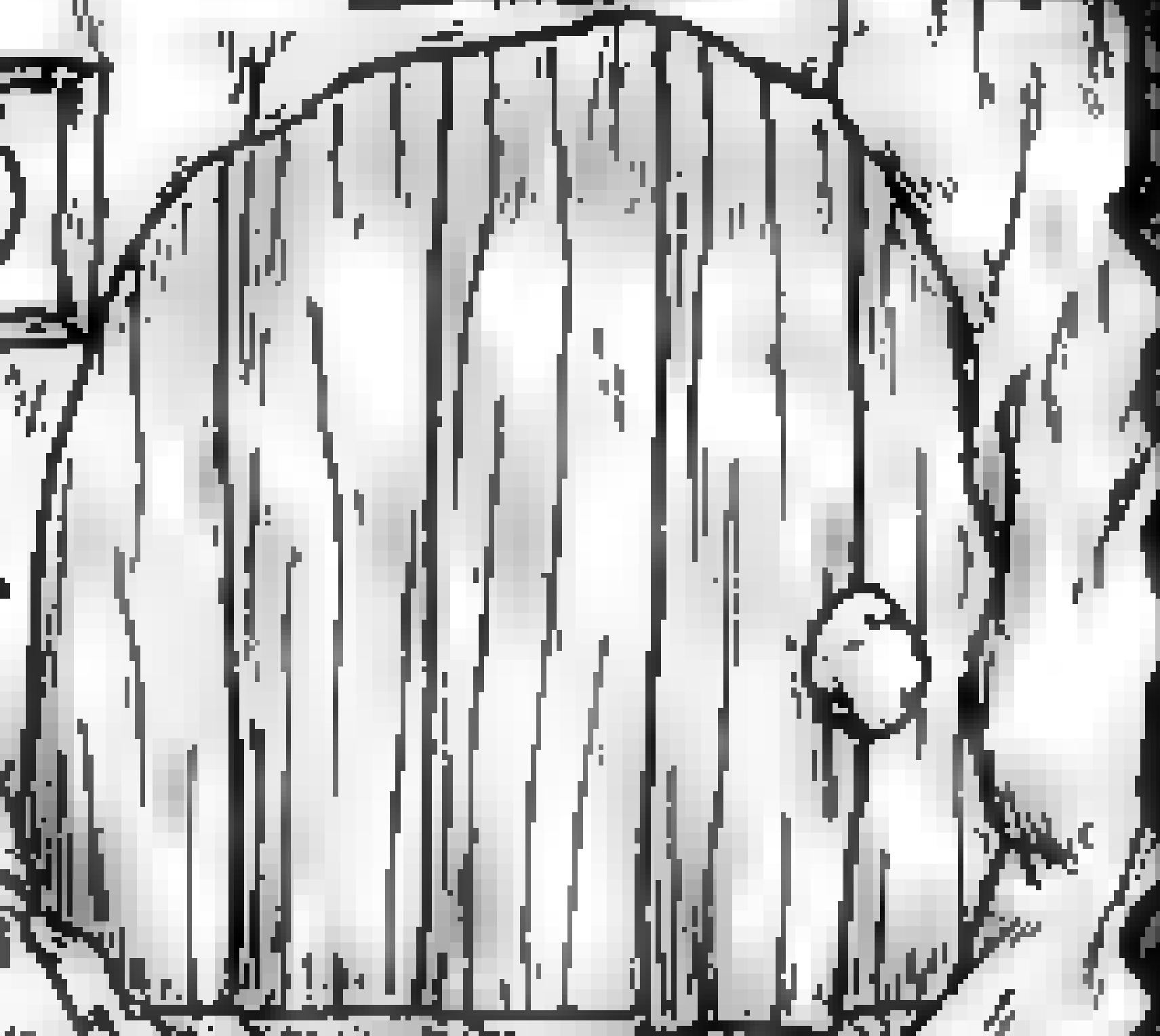
No! NOT HIM!



ITS TOO LATE.  
WE'RE HERE.

WHICH BRINGS US TO RIGHT NOW

666

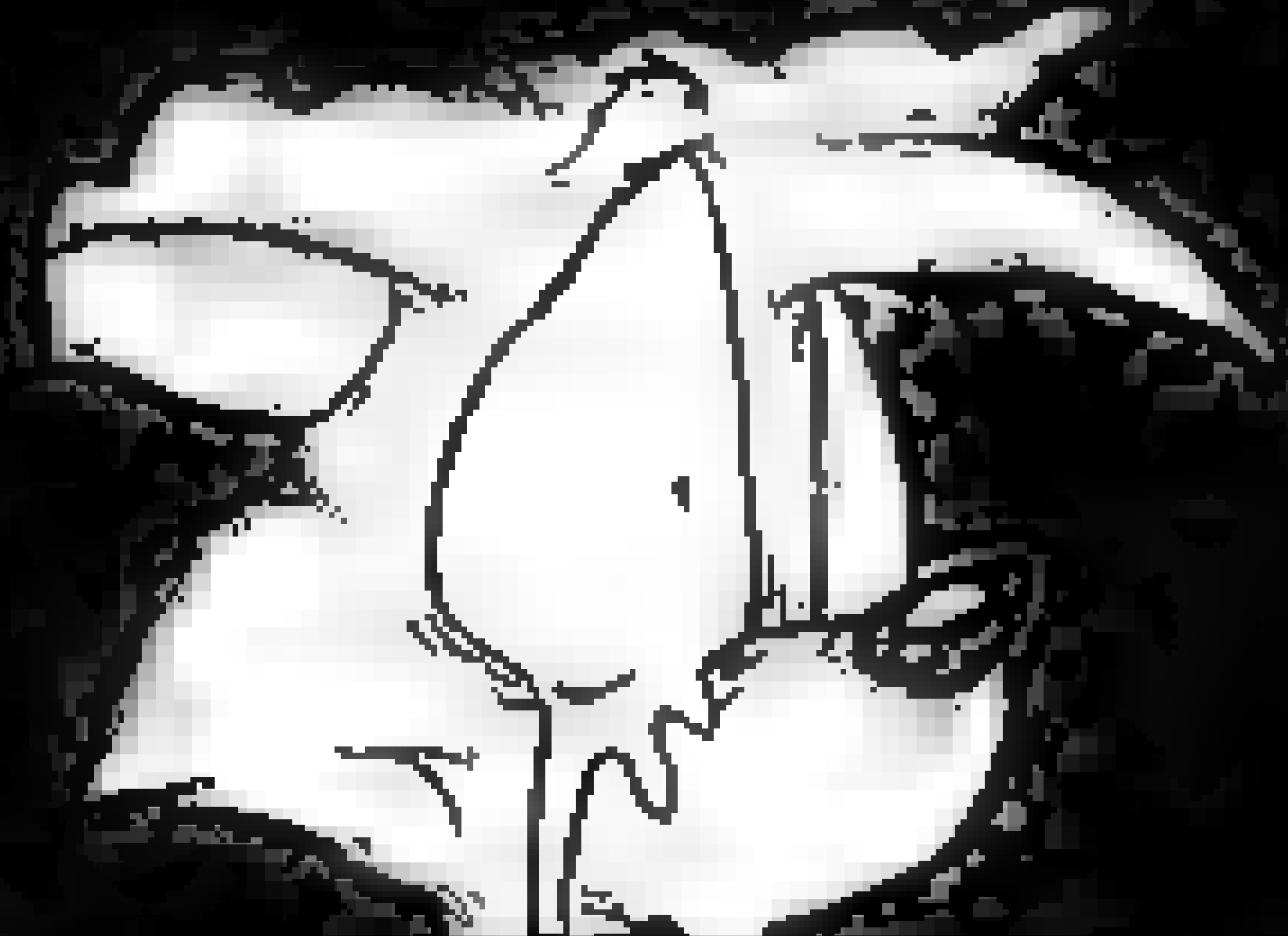


...and then the door is closed

...and the door is closed

THE PLACE OF UTMOST DECAY

GO IN, TODD.  
SHE IS WAITING.



UH.... ARE YOU  
A CLERK OR SOMETHING?

SCR

NO... I'M WHO YOU'RE LOOKING  
FOR, THE DEVIL.

THE —

SCRIBBLE

SCRIBBLE

SCRIBBLE

THERE ARE SOME PAGES  
ON THE FLOOR, TODD.  
COULD YOU BRING THEM  
HERE?

HUH?!

I-IT'S--

ME!

HEHE  
HEHE

--DO  
YOU  
LIKE  
IT?



I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING...

WHA-WHRT!  
THIS IS ME!  
ALL OF IT!  
HOW??

I'M NOT  
QUITE WHAT  
YOU EXPECTED  
THE ULTIMATE  
EVIL TO LOOK  
LIKE, YES?

THE PAGES...?!

THE PAGES, RIGHT. THEY'RE  
WHY I'M LOOKING LIKE AN  
EARLY 2000 ARTIST.

HUH?

I'M NOT OFFENDED THAT YOU  
AIN'T FAMILIAR WITH HIS WORK.  
HE ALWAYS DREW ME AS A SMILING  
UPPITY FAIRY...

HOWEVER, IF IT  
MAKES YOU FEEL BETTER  
I CAN LOOK LIKE  
SOMETHING MORE  
TRADITIONAL.

...BETTER?





OH, CALM DOWN!



I MEAN, IT'S NOT LIKE ANY OF THIS IS SUPPOSED TO MAKE SENSE...



THIS PLACE IS JUST A BIG JOKE AT YOUR EXPENSE.



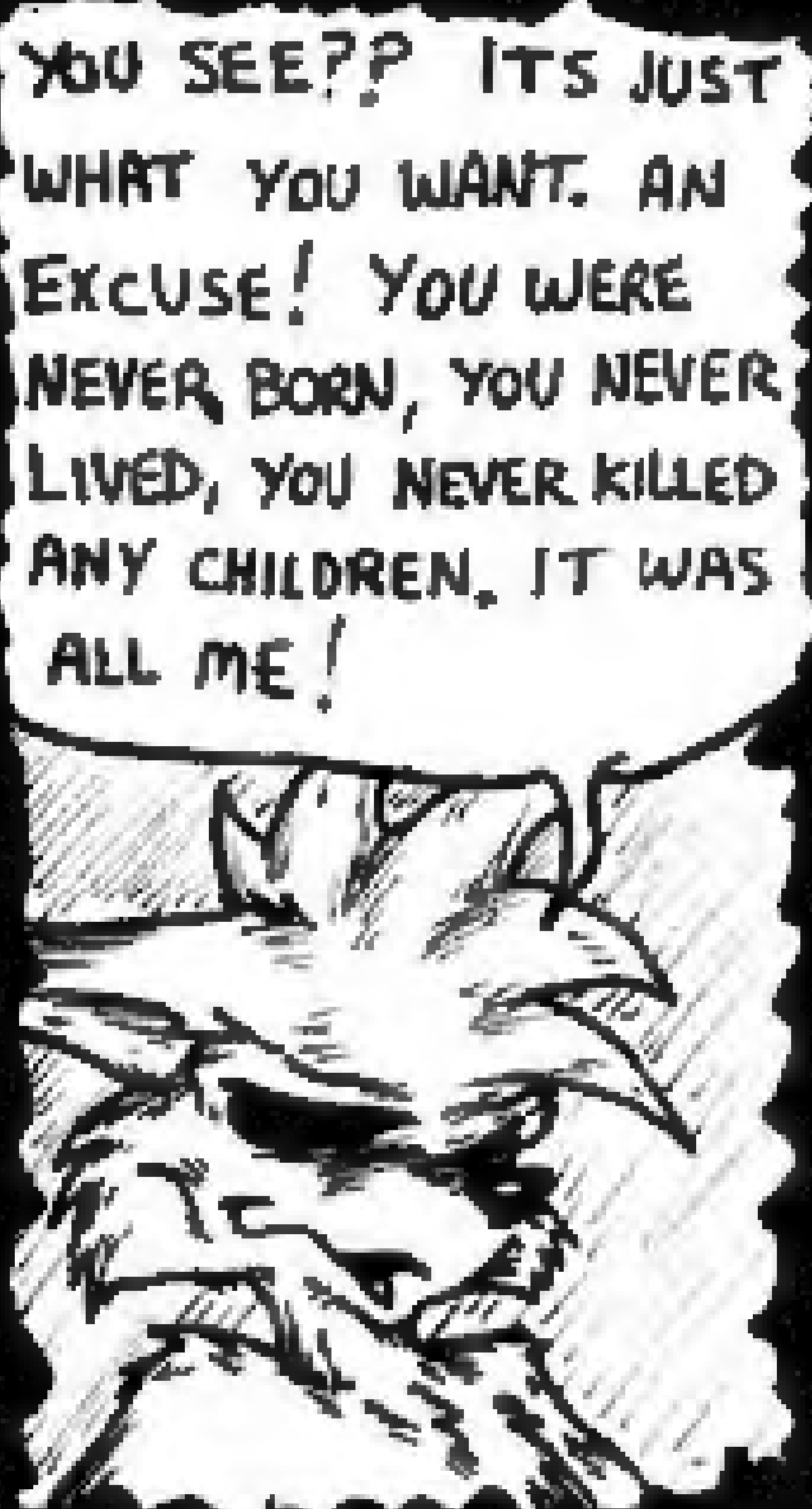
...BUUT, IF YOU'RE REALLY NICE....



.... I'LL TELL YOU WHAT YA WANT TO HEAR.



IT WAS ME THE WHOLE TIME!



YOU SEE?? IT'S JUST WHAT YOU WANT. AN EXCUSE! YOU WERE NEVER BORN, YOU NEVER LIVED, YOU NEVER KILLED ANY CHILDREN. IT WAS ALL ME!



BUT---- BUT----

BUT WHAT? THIS IS PERFECT!  
BLAME ME!!



BUT YOU'RE  
ME!!



HOLY SHIT, HE  
GOT IT!!



NOT ME, NOT FATE,  
NOT DESTINY, YOU!  
**YOU** ARE THE REASON  
YOU'RE HERE!



M-MY ORDERS....



WELL YES... I  
MAY HAVE MADE  
SUGGESTIONS, BUT  
THE CHOICE HAS  
ALWAYS BEEN  
YOURS





NO! NO!



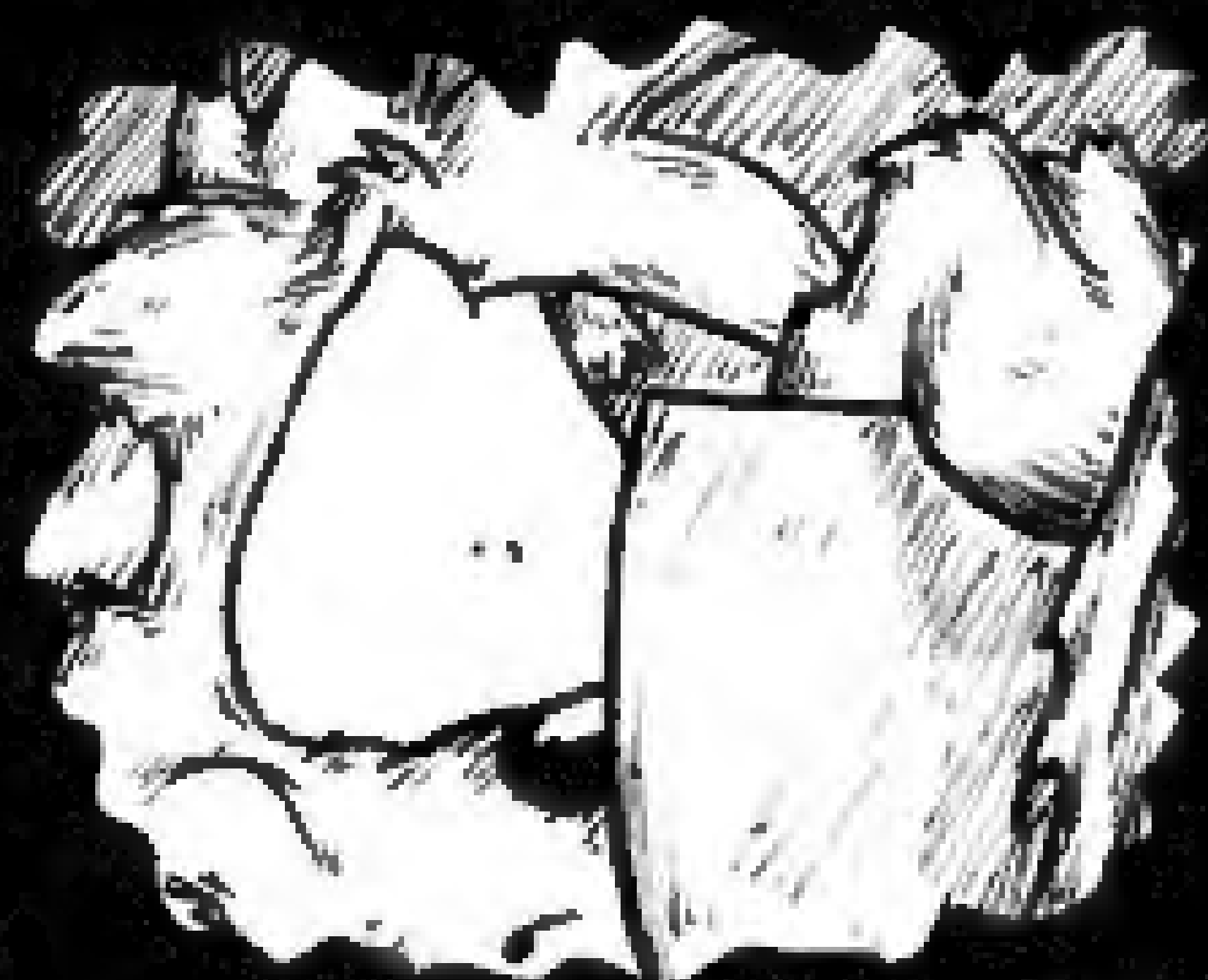
LOOK! LOOK AT THIS!



THIS PAGE IS HAPPENING NOW!



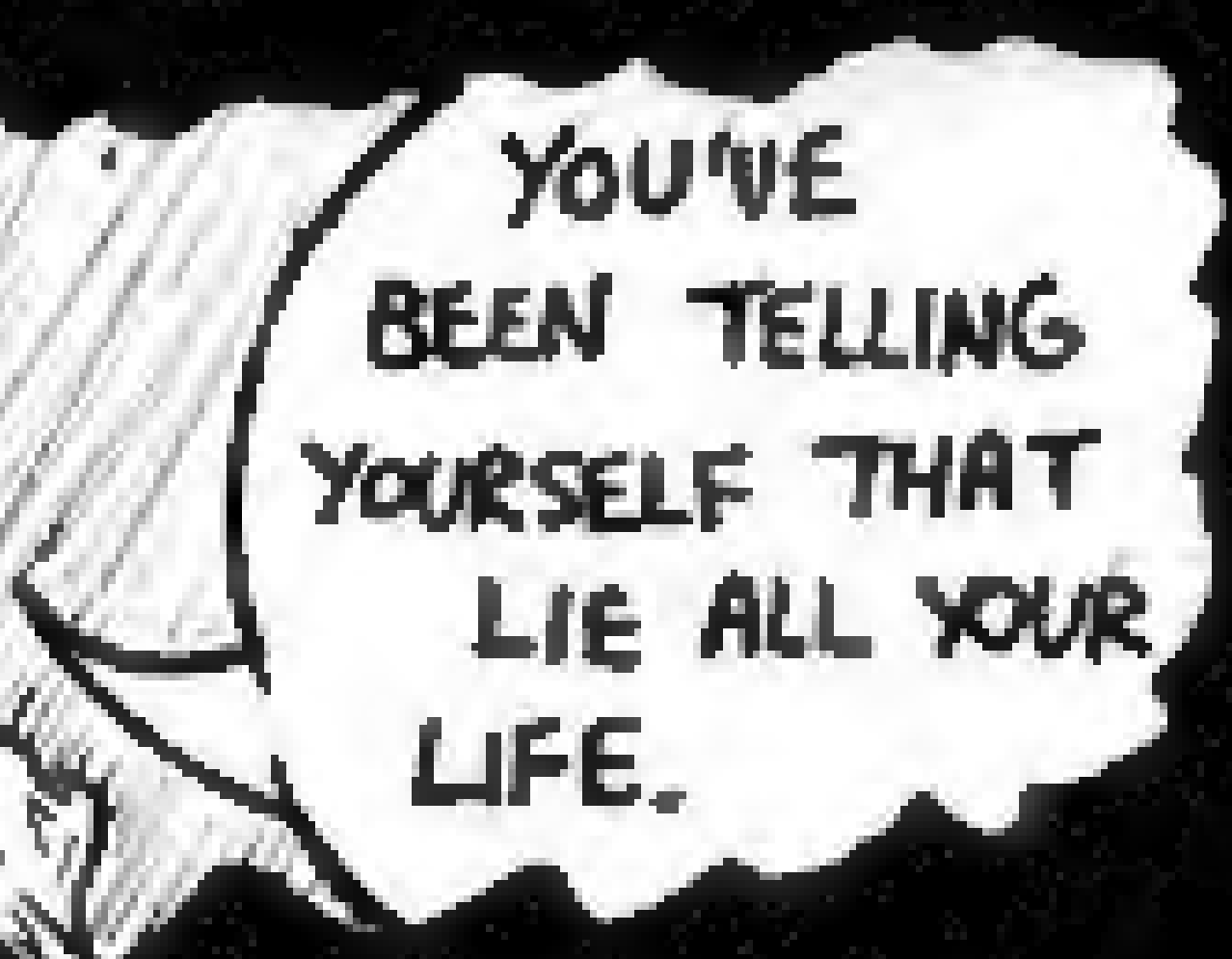
THAT'S NOTHING! I GOT THE LAST PAGE RIGHT HERE!



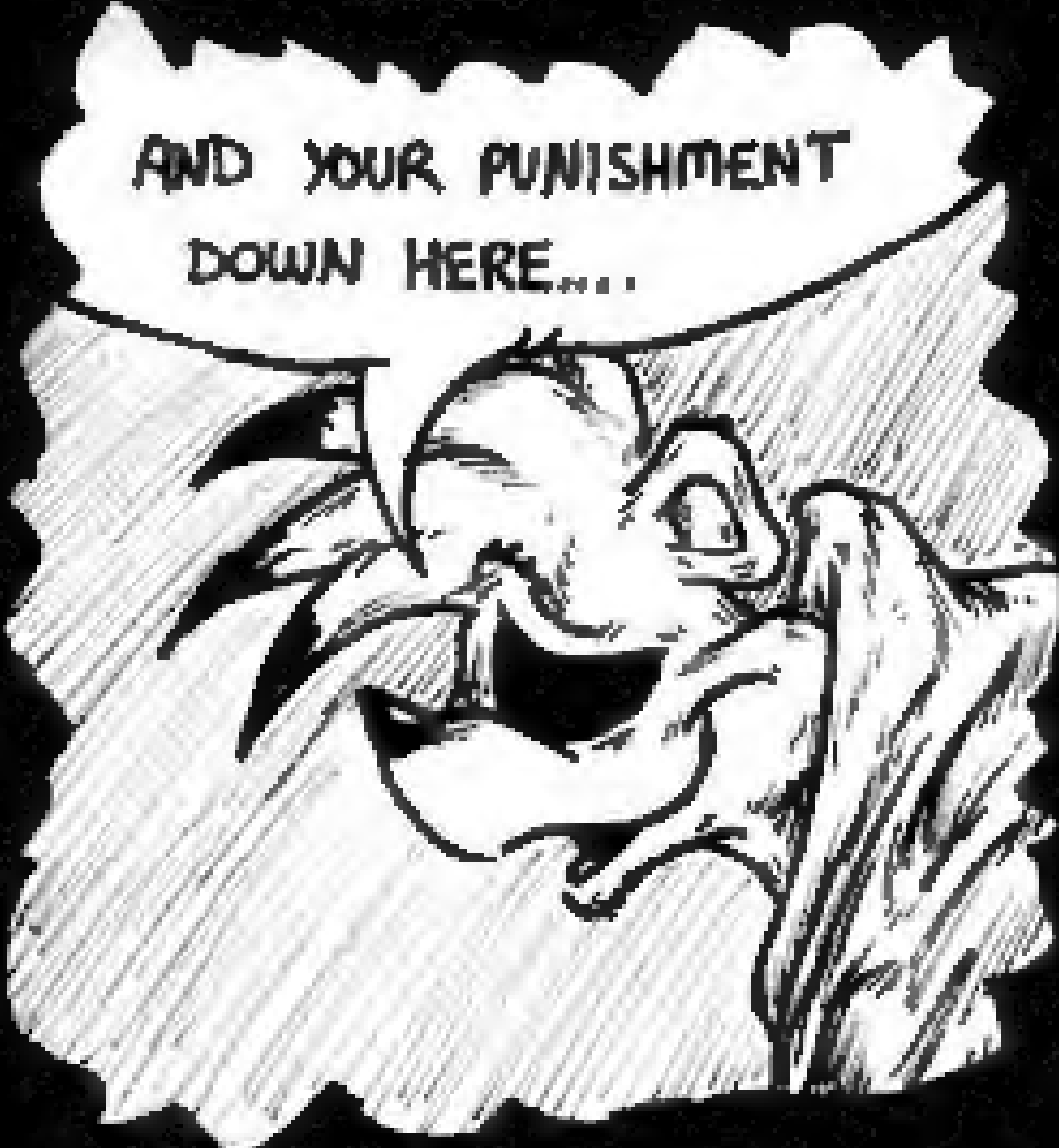
ITS PROOF! FATE WAS RULING MY LIFE ALL THIS TIME...



\*FATE!  
HA!



YOU'VE BEEN TELLING YOURSELF THAT LIE ALL YOUR LIFE.



AND YOUR PUNISHMENT DOWN HERE...



....IS THAT THE LIE IS NOW THE TRUTH.



HEHE.... I CONTROL YOU NOW, TODD.

NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I NEED  
TO GET BACK TO MY DESK. THERE ARE  
MANY WAYS THAT "FATE" CAN BE CRUEL TO  
YOU.



WAIT.... IF MY LIFE IS A  
COMIC, THEN WHO'S BEEN  
READING TH-



W/ Thanks  
for all the  
music  
to Trent and  
his NIM

TTFN

08/24/03 01:48:51  
TO OPE MR. J.C. Gumbert  
FOR ALL THE HELP  
YOU'VE GIVEN ME.